



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF  
PREVENTION, PESTICIDES, AND  
TOXIC SUBSTANCES

**Note to Reader**  
**August 7, 1998**

**Background:** As part of its effort to involve the public in the implementation of the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA), which is designed to ensure that the United States continues to have the safest and most abundant food supply, EPA is undertaking an effort to open public dockets on the organophosphate pesticides. These dockets will make available to all interested parties documents that were developed as part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's process for making reregistration eligibility decisions and tolerance reassessments consistent with FQPA. The dockets include preliminary health assessments and, where available, ecological risk assessments conducted by EPA, rebuttals or corrections to the risk assessments submitted by chemical registrants, and the Agency's response to the registrants' submissions.

The analyses contained in this docket are preliminary in nature and represent the information available to EPA at the time they were prepared. Additional information may have been submitted to EPA which has not yet been incorporated into these analyses, and registrants or others may be developing relevant information. It's common and appropriate that new information and analyses will be used to revise and refine the evaluations contained in these dockets to make them more comprehensive and realistic. The Agency cautions against premature conclusions based on these preliminary assessments and against any use of information contained in these documents out of their full context. Throughout this process, if unacceptable risks are identified, EPA will act to reduce or eliminate the risks.

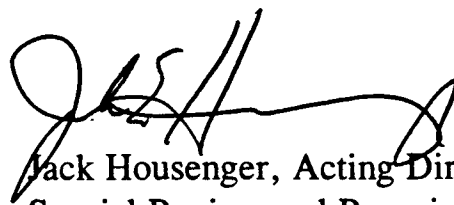
There is a 60 day comment period in which the public and all interested parties are invited to submit comments on the information in this docket. Comments should directly relate to this organophosphate and to the information and issues

available in the information in this docket. Once the comment period closes, EPA will review all comments and revise the risk assessments, as necessary.

These preliminary risk assessments represent an early stage in the process by which EPA is evaluating the regulatory requirements applicable to existing pesticides. Through this opportunity for notice and comment, the Agency hopes to advance the openness and scientific soundness underpinning its decisions. This process is designed to assure that America continues to enjoy the safest and most abundant food supply. Through implementation of EPA's tolerance reassessment program under the Food Quality Protection Act, the food supply will become even safer. Leading health experts recommend that all people eat a wide variety of foods, including at least five servings of fruits and vegetables a day.

**Note:** This sheet is provided to help the reader understand how refined and developed the pesticide file is as of the date prepared, what if any changes have occurred recently, and what new information, if any, is expected to be included in the analysis before decisions are made. **It is not meant to be a summary of all current information regarding the chemical.** Rather, the sheet provides some context to better understand the substantive material in the docket ( RED chapters, registrant rebuttals, Agency responses to rebuttals, etc.) for this pesticide.

Further, in some cases, differences may be noted between the RED chapters and the Agency's comprehensive reports on the hazard identification information and safety factors for all organophosphates. In these cases, information in the comprehensive reports is the most current and will, barring the submission of more data that the Agency finds useful, be used in the risk assessments.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Housenger', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jack Housenger, Acting Director  
Special Review and Reregistration  
Division

Feb 19 1998

**Certified Mail**

Robert E. Hawk  
Gowan Chemical Company  
P.O. Box 5569  
Yuma, AZ 85366-5569

Subject:           Bensulide Ecological Effects and Fate RED Chapter

Dear Mr. Hawk:

The Agency has completed its ecological fate and effects chapter for the bensulide RED document. A copy of the February 4, 1998, document is enclosed for your records. The Agency believes that the quality of the ecological risk assessment was compromised by the lack of adequate data. Because you did not submit any adequate field dissipation data, the Agency was forced to rely on lab data to establish a half-life for bensulide. These data indicate that bensulide has a half-life of 1 year. The terrestrial field dissipation study that you have previously submitted is not acceptable because no frozen storage stability data were provided for bensulide and its degradate bensulide oxon in the soil from the study site and soil characterization data were incompletely identified. In a conversation with the Agency's scientist you apparently indicated that a storage stability study is in progress, however, adequate identification of the soil characterization data must still be provided. A progress report of these data, including projected submission dates, must be submitted to the Agency within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this letter.

Please note that this chapter outlines several areas where the Agency is concerned about risks from the use of bensulide, including risks to birds, mammals, freshwater/estuarine fish, and freshwater/estuarine invertebrates. These risks are discussed in detail **in the enclosed** chapter. To mitigate these risks, the Agency is proposing several risk **mitigation measures**, including: reduction of the maximum per year rate to 6 lb a.i./A; restriction on the golf course use so that bensulide may only be applied to the greens; and classification of bensulide as a restricted use pesticide. Please note that these risk reduction measures are intended to reduce the risk of bensulide used alone and do not include any measures to mitigate cumulative effects with other pesticides.

The Agency is providing you with thirty (30) days from the date of your receipt of this letter to submit any comments that you may have to this chapter, as well as to provide the

required progress report. Please note that the Agency must receive your comments within the time frame provided to adequately address them in the final RED document. Comments received beyond the time frame provided may not be reviewed or addressed by the RED. If you have any questions regarding the reregistration of bensulide, please contact Susan Jennings at (703) 308-7130.

Sincerely,

Walter I. Waldrop  
Reregistration Branch 3  
Special Review and  
Reregistration Division

Enclosure

#### MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Transmittal of EFED's RED chapter for bensulide (Chemical # 009801) and associated DER's, EFED's data requirements and recommendations. (Reregistration Case # 2035, Bar Code # D234388, D233746, D233748, D2233750, D2337451, and D237031)

FROM: F. Nicholas Mastrota  
Environmental Risk Branch II  
Environmental Fate and Effects Division 7507C

THRU: Elizabeth M. Leovey, Chief  
Environmental Risk Branch II  
Environmental Fate and Effects Division 7507C

TO: Walter Waldrop (53)  
Reregistration Division (7508W)

Attached to this memo is the EFED chapter for the Bensulide RED (Reregistration Case # 2035). The attached product contains drop-in chapters for both the environmental fate assessment and the ecological risk assessment, as well as an integrated risk characterization. Also attached is a Data Evaluation Report for one environmental fate study. The sponsor of these data is Gowan Corporation.

## Adequacy of Data

The quality of the risk assessment for bensulide was significantly compromised by the lack of important data. No adequate field dissipation data have been provided to the Agency, making it impossible to know if the degradation rates measured in the laboratory accurately reflect those that occur under field conditions. Risk to nontarget plants could not be assessed because data have not been submitted for either terrestrial or aquatic plants. Furthermore, the risk of chronic effects to aquatic organisms are unknown because chronic toxicity studies have not been submitted. Finally, the data submitted for avian reproductive effects on birds and acute toxicity to freshwater invertebrates were inadequate, which decreased the certainty of the risk assessment. These data gaps must be filled, and the environmental risk of bensulide needs to be reassessed as these data become available.

## New Data

No new data on ecological effects were reviewed for this RED. One DER is attached for the following new environmental fate study:

<u>GLN</u>	<u>Study Type</u>	<u>MRID</u>	<u>Fulfills Guideline?</u>	<u>DP Barcode</u>
164-1	Terrestrial field dissipation	44297001	No/Upgradeable	D237031

## Requirements for Additional Studies

For completing an ecological risk assessment for bensulide, the following data requirements which were reserved are now required:

Study Type	Guideline Number
Freshwater fish early life-stage or life-cycle study	72-4(a) or 72-5
Freshwater invertebrate life-cycle study	72-4(b)
Seedling emergence study, tier II	123-1(a)
Vegetative vigor study, tier II	123-1(b)
Aquatic plant growth and reproduction, tier II	123-2

A freshwater fish early life-stage test (GLN 72-4a) and a freshwater invertebrate life-cycle test (GLN 72-4b) are required for the TGA of bensulide. These studies are triggered because the end-use product is expected to be transported to water from the intended use site and the following conditions exist: aquatic acute LC<sub>50</sub>'s of four fish species (rainbow trout, bluegill sunfish, sheepshead minnow, and spot) and the EC<sub>50</sub> of the waterflea are less than 1 mg/L, and the EEC in water is expected to be greater than 0.01 of acute LC<sub>50</sub> values. Further factors that trigger this test are that studies with other organisms (birds) have found reproductive effects at concentrations that are expected to

occur in the environment, and the half-life of bensulide in water is greater than 4 days (bensulide is stable in water).

A freshwater fish life-cycle study may be required dependant on the results of the freshwater fish early life-stage test. The registrant has the option to do a freshwater fish life-cycle test in lieu of the fish early life-stage test, thereby fulfilling all requirements for chronic fish testing.

Terrestrial plant testing is required for bensulide because it is an herbicide that has terrestrial non-residential outdoor use patterns, may move off the application site in runoff and spray drift, and may have endangered or threatened plant species associated with the application sites. Tier II seedling emergence tests (GLN 123-1a) and tier II vegetative vigor tests (GLN 123-1b) with ten crop species are required.

Aquatic plant testing is required for bensulide because it is an herbicide that has terrestrial non-residential outdoor use patterns, may move off the application site in runoff and spray drift, and may have endangered or threatened plant species associated with the application sites. Tier II aquatic plant testing (GLN 123-2) is required with the five standard plants: duckweed, blue-green alga, freshwater green alga, freshwater diatom, and marine diatom.

In addition, the following studies need to be submitted to replace previous studies that were found to be unacceptable:

Study Type	Guideline Number
Avian reproduction study with the mallard	71-4(b)
Acute freshwater invertebrate study	72-2(a)

The previous avian reproduction study with the mallard (MRID 43616002) must be repeated because it did not determine a no-observed-effects-level (NOEL). Establishing the chronic NOEL is important because use of bensulide is expected to result in chronic exposure to birds, especially when used on turf. The previous acute freshwater invertebrate study was supplemental because dissolved oxygen concentrations during the test were unacceptably low (less than 60% of saturation). EFED suggests that this study be repeated using a flow-through system to avoid problems with low oxygen levels. Repeating this study would increase the certainty of the risk assessment, but it is unlikely that the results would change the risk assessment conclusions.

## Requirements for Additional Information

Additional information was provided by the registrant in a letter dated December 5, 1995 (D221952) concerning previously-reviewed terrestrial field dissipation studies (MRIDs 41694201 and 41694202, reviewed by EFGWB). In summary, this information does not satisfactorily address the issues raised in the reviews.

Previous terrestrial field dissipation studies (eight total) were unacceptable for a variety of reasons. In a memo to the Agency dated 5 December 1995, the registrant indicated that, in order to address the questions of the Agency concerning the results of the previously-submitted field studies, a bare-ground soil dissipation study was in progress in North Carolina.

In a telecom with EFED (March 17, 1997) Bob Hawk, Senior Regulatory Scientist for Gowan, indicated that the completed study would be submitted to the Agency in May 1997. That study was provided in 1997 and is reviewed in this report (MRID 44297001). The study is unacceptable at this time because no acceptable frozen storage stability data were provided for bensulide and its degradate bensulide oxon in the soil from the study site (the study samples were stored for up to five years before analysis) and soil characterization data were incompletely identified. This study can be upgraded to acceptable with submission of acceptable frozen storage stability data on the parent and its degradate bensulide oxon. The registrant states that a storage stability study using the soil from the study site is in progress; however, the registrant did not specify when the study will be submitted. In addition, adequate identification of the soil characterization data must be provided.

### Bensulide Use Patterns Addressed in Risk Assessment

The two major types of use patterns for bensulide are use on vegetable row crops and use on turf and ornamentals. The numerous vegetable crops for which bensulide is registered were aggregated into one site called "vegetables" in the risk assessment. The primary vegetable crops are lettuce, onion, cucumber, cantaloupe and squash. The use on vegetables generally has a maximum use rate of 6 lb ai/A. In the desert southwest, two applications may be made within one year, for a total annual rate of 12 lb ai/A. A 3 lb ai/A rate was also included in the risk assessment because this is the maximum rate for local registrations on onion and garlic in some northwestern states. Applications may or may not be banded, and may or may not be soil incorporated. The risk assessment addresses the effects of banding and soil incorporation when used separately as well as combined.

Bensulide is registered for turf and ornamentals. Maximum application rates range from 6 to 12.5 lb ai/A per application, with a maximum annual rate of 25 lb ai/A. There are both granular and EC products. Bensulide is applied on turf in unincorporated broadcast applications. The majority of turf use is on golf course greens and lawns. EFED received information that there is a small amount of bensulide used on sod farms, but the HED chapter states that there is no sod use. The use on ornamentals is very small.

### Summary of Risks

#### Summary of Acute and Chronic Risks and RQ Values (Shading indicates high risk)

Use Site		Birds	Mammals	Honey Bees	Fresh-water Fish	Aquatic Inverts.	Estuarine Fish	Estuarine Inverts.
Onion 3 lb/A	Acute	0.01-0.13	0.00-0.14	Low	0.02-0.06	0.03-0.08	0.05-0.15	0.24-0.75
	Chronic	2.9	4.8		High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>

Veg 6.0 lb/A	Acute	0.02-0.26	0.01-4.4	Low	0.04-0.23	0.05-0.28	0.09-0.51	0.48-2.6
	Chronic	5.8	9.6		High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>
Turf/EC 12.5	Acute	0.03-0.53	0.02-9.1	High <sup>1</sup>	0.24-0.49	0.29-0.60	0.53-1.1	2.7-5.7
	Chronic	12	20		High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>
Turf/Gran 7.5-12.5	Acute	2.8-4.7	0.25-28	Low	0.37-1.36	0.47-1.7	0.83-3.1	4.3-16
	Chronic				High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>	High <sup>2</sup>
LOCs				(none)				
High		0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
R.U.		0.2	0.2		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Endang.		0.1	0.1		0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Chronic		1	1		1	1	1	1

1 High risk is concluded based on high toxicity and potential exposure to bees.

2 High risk is assumed because bensulide is highly persistent and no chronic data have been submitted.

## Risk mitigation

Because of the serious acute and chronic risks identified for bensulide, EFED recommends risk mitigation action. Use rates for bensulide are very high relative to other pesticides. Reductions in annual use rates thus may be a practical avenue for reducing ecological risks. EFED suggests a reduction of the maximum **per year** rate to 6 lb ai/A for all uses. (Two applications could be made at 3lb ai/A). Use on golf courses poses a considerably greater risk to terrestrial and aquatic organisms if fairways are treated as well as greens. Therefore, restricting use on golf courses to only greens would effectively reduce risk while retaining most of the benefits of bensulide. Finally, the high levels of risks warrant the consideration of restricted use classification.

## Recommendations for Labeling

Labels for end-use products should contain the following Environmental Hazard statement:

"This product is toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates. Do not apply directly to water, or to areas where surface water is present or to intertidal areas below the mean high water mark. Do not contaminate water when disposing of equipment washwater or rinsate"

The following statement, which currently appears on labels of EC products, should be retained :

"Do not apply when weather conditions favor drift from the treated area."

Because bensulide is highly toxic to honey bees, EFED recommends that the following statement be added to labels of EC products (but not granular products):

"This product is highly toxic to bees exposed to direct treatment or residues on blooming crops or weeds. Do not apply this product or allow it to drift to blooming crops or weeds if bees are visiting the treatment area."



cc (by cc:Mail):

Joe Merenda  
Denise Keehner  
Stephanie Syslo  
David Wells  
William Effland

DP BARCODE: D233746

REREG CASE # 2035

CASE: 801013  
SUBMISSION: S519029

DATA PACKAGE RECORD  
BEAN SHEET

DATE: 01/30/98  
Page 1 of 1

\* \* \* CASE/SUBMISSION INFORMATION \* \* \*

CASE TYPE: REREGISTRATION ACTION: 623 INITIATE RED CHAPTER  
CHEMICALS: 009801 Bensulide

100.00 %

ID#: 009801-010182

COMPANY: 010182 ZENECA AG PRODUCTS

PRODUCT MANAGER: 53 WALTER WALDROP

703-308-8062 ROOM: CS1 2C3

PM TEAM REVIEWER: CONCEPCION RODRIGUEZ

703-308-8000 ROOM: CS1

RECEIVED DATE: 02/25/97 DUE OUT DATE: 06/25/97

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE INFORMATION \* \* \*

DP BARCODE: 233746 EXPEDITE: Y DATE SENT: 02/25/97 DATE RET.: / /

CHEMICAL: 009801 Bensulide

DP TYPE: 101 Phase IV Review

CSF: N

LABEL: Y

ASSIGNED TO	DATE IN	DATE OUT
DIV : EFED	03/12/97	02/04/98
BRAN: ERB2	03/12/97	02/04/98
SECT: IO	03/12/97	02/04/98
REVR : NMASTROT	03/12/97	02/04/98
CONTR:	/ /	/ /

ADMIN DUE DATE: 06/25/97

NEGOT DATE: / /

PROJ DATE: / /

\* \* \* DATA REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS \* \* \*

Please review material submitted for Bensulide so Chapters  
can be completed for 71 72 Guidelines

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE EVALUATION \* \* \*

No evaluation is written for this data package

\* \* \* ADDITIONAL DATA PACKAGES FOR THIS SUBMISSION \* \* \*

DP BC	BRANCH/SECTION	DATE OUT	DUE BACK	INS	CSF	LABEL
-------	----------------	----------	----------	-----	-----	-------

DP BARCODE: D233748

REREG CASE # 2035

CASE: 801013  
SUBMISSION: S519033

DATA PACKAGE RECORD  
BEAN SHEET

DATE: 01/30/98  
Page 1 of 1

\* \* \* CASE/SUBMISSION INFORMATION \* \* \*

CASE TYPE: REREGISTRATION ACTION: 623 INITIATE RED CHAPTER  
CHEMICALS: 009801 Bensulide

100.00 %

ID#: 009801-010182

COMPANY: 010182 ZENECA AG PRODUCTS

PRODUCT MANAGER: 53 WALTER WALDROP

703-308-8062 ROOM: CS1 2C3

PM TEAM REVIEWER: CONCEPCION RODRIGUEZ

703-308-8000 ROOM: CS1

RECEIVED DATE: 02/25/97 DUE OUT DATE: 06/25/97

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE INFORMATION \* \* \*

DP BARCODE: 233748 EXPEDITE: N DATE SENT: 02/25/97 DATE RET.: / /

CHEMICAL: 009801 Bensulide

DP TYPE: 101 Phase IV Review

CSF: N

LABEL: Y

ASSIGNED TO	DATE IN	DATE OUT	ADMIN DUE DATE: 06/25/97
DIV : EFED	03/12/97	/ /	NEGOT DATE: / /
BRAN: ERB2	/ /	/ /	PROJ DATE: / /
SECT: IO	/ /	/ /	
REVR : SSYSLO	/ /	/ /	
CONTR:	/ /	/ /	

\* \* \* DATA REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS \* \* \*

Please review material submitted for Bensulide so red chapters can be completed .Guidelines 122-124 were in reserves status in DCI sent to company June 11, 1991. If these studies are now required please let us know asap.

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE EVALUATION \* \* \*

No evaluation is written for this data package

\* \* \* ADDITIONAL DATA PACKAGES FOR THIS SUBMISSION \* \* \*

DP BC	BRANCH/SECTION	DATE OUT	DUE BACK	INS	CSF	LABEL
-------	----------------	----------	----------	-----	-----	-------

DP BARCODE: D233750

REREG CASE # 2035

CASE: 801013  
SUBMISSION: S519036

DATA PACKAGE RECORD  
BEAN SHEET

DATE: 01/30/98  
Page 1 of 1

\* \* \* CASE/SUBMISSION INFORMATION \* \* \*

CASE TYPE: REREGISTRATION ACTION: 623 INITIATE RED CHAPTER  
CHEMICALS: 009801 Bensulide

100.00 %

ID#: 009801-010182

COMPANY: 010182 ZENECA AG PRODUCTS

PRODUCT MANAGER: 53 WALTER WALDROP

703-308-8062 ROOM: CS1 2C3

PM TEAM REVIEWER: CONCEPCION RODRIGUEZ

703-308-8000 ROOM: CS1

RECEIVED DATE: 02/25/97 DUE OUT DATE: 06/25/97

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE INFORMATION \* \* \*

DP BARCODE: 233750 EXPEDITE: N DATE SENT: 02/25/97 DATE RET.: / /

CHEMICAL: 009801 Bensulide

DP TYPE: 101 Phase IV Review

CSF: N

LABEL: Y

ASSIGNED TO

DATE IN

DATE OUT

ADMIN DUE DATE: 06/25/97

DIV : EFED

03/12/97

02/04/98

NEGOT DATE: / /

BRAN: ERB2

/ /

/ /

PROJ DATE: / /

SECT: IO

/ /

/ /

REVR : NMASTROT

/ /

/ /

CONTR:

/ /

/ /

\* \* \* DATA REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS \* \* \*

Please review material submitted for Bensulide so Red chapters can be completed. Guideline 141 series were not required when DCI was Mailed on June 11, 1991. If needed please let me know asap.

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE EVALUATION \* \* \*

No evaluation is written for this data package

\* \* \* ADDITIONAL DATA PACKAGES FOR THIS SUBMISSION \* \* \*

DP BC  
234388

BRANCH/SECTION  
ERB2/IO

DATE OUT  
03/18/97

DUE BACK  
/ /

INS  
Y

CSF  
N

LABEL  
N

DP BARCODE: D233751

REREG CASE # 2035

CASE: 801013  
SUBMISSION: S519037

DATA PACKAGE RECORD  
BEAN SHEET

DATE: 01/30/98  
Page 1 of 1

\* \* \* CASE/SUBMISSION INFORMATION \* \* \*

CASE TYPE: REREGISTRATION ACTION: 623 INITIATE RED CHAPTER  
CHEMICALS: 009801 Bensulide

100.00 %

ID#: 009801-010182

COMPANY: 010182 ZENECA AG PRODUCTS

PRODUCT MANAGER: 53 WALTER WALDROP

PM TEAM REVIEWER: CONCEPCION RODRIGUEZ

RECEIVED DATE: 02/25/97

DUE OUT DATE: 06/25/97

703-308-8062

ROOM: CS1

2C3

703-308-8000

ROOM: CS1

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE INFORMATION \* \* \*

DP BARCODE: 233751 EXPEDITE: N DATE SENT: 02/25/97 DATE RET.: / /

CHEMICAL: 009801 Bensulide

DP TYPE: 101 Phase IV Review

CSF: N

LABEL: Y

ASSIGNED TO

DATE IN

DATE OUT

ADMIN DUE DATE: 06/25/97

DIV : EFED

03/12/97

02/04/98

NEGOT DATE: / /

BRAN: ERB2

SECT: IO

REVR : DWELLS

CONTR:

↓ ↓ ↓

↓ ↓ ↓

PROJ DATE: / /

↓ ↓ ↓

↓ ↓ ↓

↓ ↓ ↓

↓ ↓ ↓

↓ ↓ ↓

↓ ↓ ↓

\* \* \* DATA REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS \* \* \*

Please review material submitted for Bensulide so red chapters can be completed. Guideline 161-164 and 165 series.

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE EVALUATION \* \* \*

No evaluation is written for this data package

\* \* \* ADDITIONAL DATA PACKAGES FOR THIS SUBMISSION \* \* \*

DP BC	BRANCH/SECTION	DATE OUT	DUE BACK	INS	CSF	LABEL
-------	----------------	----------	----------	-----	-----	-------

DP BARCODE: D237031

REREG CASE # 2035

CASE: 818572  
SUBMISSION: S525942

DATA PACKAGE RECORD  
BEAN SHEET

DATE: 01/30/98  
Page 1 of 1

\* \* \* CASE/SUBMISSION INFORMATION \* \* \*

CASE TYPE: REREGISTRATION ACTION: 627 CORE DATA  
CHEMICALS: 009801 Bensulide

100.00 %

ID#: 009801

COMPANY:

PRODUCT MANAGER: 53 WALTER WALDROP

703-308-8062 ROOM: CS1 2C3

PM TEAM REVIEWER: CONCEPCION RODRIGUEZ

703-308-8000 ROOM: CS1

RECEIVED DATE: 06/16/97 DUE OUT DATE: 09/14/97

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE INFORMATION \* \* \*

DP BARCODE: 237031 EXPEDITE: N DATE SENT: 07/02/97 DATE RET.: / /  
CHEMICAL: 009801 Bensulide  
DP TYPE: 001

	CSF: N	LABEL: N	
ASSIGNED TO	DATE IN	DATE OUT	ADMIN DUE DATE: 09/30/97
DIV : EFED	07/02/97	02/04/98	NEGOT DATE: / /
BRAN: ERB2	07/02/97	/ /	PROJ DATE: / /
SECT: IO	07/02/97	/ /	
REVR : <del>SSYSLO</del>	07/02/97	/ /	
CONTR:	/ /	/ /	

\* \* \* DATA REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS \* \* \*

Attention Stephanie Syslo:  
Please review the bensulide soil dissipation study MRID No.  
442970-01  
Thanks,  
Conchi Rodriguez 308-8068

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE EVALUATION \* \* \*

No evaluation is written for this data package

\* \* \* ADDITIONAL DATA PACKAGES FOR THIS SUBMISSION \* \* \*

DP BC	BRANCH/SECTION	DATE OUT	DUE BACK	INS	CSF	LABEL
-------	----------------	----------	----------	-----	-----	-------

DP BARCODE: D234388

REREG CASE # 2035

CASE: 801013  
SUBMISSION: S519036

DATA PACKAGE RECORD  
BEAN SHEET

DATE: 01/30/98  
Page 1 of 1

\* \* \* CASE/SUBMISSION INFORMATION \* \* \*

CASE TYPE: REREGISTRATION ACTION: 623 INITIATE RED CHAPTER  
CHEMICALS: 009801 Bensulide

100.00 %

ID#: 009801-010182

COMPANY: 010182 ZENECA AG PRODUCTS

PRODUCT MANAGER: 53 WALTER WALDROP

703-308-8062 ROOM: CS1 2C3

PM TEAM REVIEWER: CONCEPCION RODRIGUEZ

703-308-8000 ROOM: CS1

RECEIVED DATE: 02/25/97 DUE OUT DATE: 06/25/97

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE INFORMATION \* \* \*

DP BARCODE: 234388 EXPEDITE: Y DATE SENT: 03/18/97 DATE RET.: 03/18/97

CHEMICAL: 009801 Bensulide

DP TYPE: 999 Miscellaneous Data Package

CSF: N

LABEL: N

ASSIGNED TO	DATE IN	DATE OUT	ADMIN DUE DATE:	/	/
DIV : EFED	03/18/97	03/18/97	NEGOT DATE:	/	/
BRAN: ERB2	03/18/97	03/18/97	PROJ DATE:	/	/
SECT: IO	03/18/97	03/18/97			
REVR : NMASTROT	03/18/97	03/18/97			
CONTR:	/ /	/ /			

\* \* \* DATA REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS \* \* \*

No instructions are written for this Data Package

\* \* \* DATA PACKAGE EVALUATION \* \* \*

No evaluation is written for this data package

\* \* \* ADDITIONAL DATA PACKAGES FOR THIS SUBMISSION \* \* \*

DP BC	BRANCH/SECTION	DATE OUT	DUE BACK	INS	CSF	LABEL
233750	ERB2/IO	02/25/97	06/25/97	Y	N	Y

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Adequacy of Data:

The quality of the risk assessment for bensulide was significantly compromised by the lack of important data. No adequate field dissipation data have been provided to the Agency, making it impossible to know if the degradation rates measured in the laboratory accurately reflect those that occur under field conditions. Risk to nontarget plants could not be assessed because data have been submitted for neither terrestrial nor aquatic plants. Furthermore, the risk of chronic effects to aquatic organisms are unknown because chronic toxicity studies have not been submitted. Finally, the data submitted for avian reproductive effects on birds and acute toxicity to freshwater invertebrates were inadequate, which decreased the certainty of the risk assessment. These data gaps must be filled, and the environmental risk of bensulide needs to be reassessed as these data become available.

### Toxicity Summary:

The available acute toxicity data on the TGAI indicate that bensulide is practically nontoxic to slightly toxic to birds ( $LD_{50} = 1386$  mg/kg;  $LC_{50} > 5620$  ppm), and moderately toxic to small mammals ( $LD_{50} = 312$  mg/kg, rat). Bensulide impairs avian reproduction at a dietary concentration of 250 ppm. Bensulide is highly toxic to bees ( $LD_{50} = 1.6$  µg/bee). Bensulide is moderately to highly toxic to freshwater fish ( $LC_{50} = 0.72$ -1.1 ppm) and (based on supplemental data) moderately toxic to freshwater invertebrates ( $LC_{50} = 1.4$ -3.3 ppm). Bensulide is highly toxic to estuarine/marine fish ( $LC_{50} = 320$ -560 ppb) and moderately to very highly toxic to estuarine/marine invertebrates ( $LC_{50} = 62$  to  $>1000$  ppb). Data on the toxicity of bensulide to plants are not available.

### Risk Assessment:

**Birds:** Use of the emulsifiable concentrate (EC) products of bensulide are not expected to pose a high **acute** risk to birds. The restricted use and endangered species LOCs are exceeded when the maximum application rate is equal to or greater than 6.0 and 3.0 lb ai/A, respectively. For granular products used on turf and ornamentals, the risk quotients indicate high acute risk. The high acute LOC is exceeded for small birds when the maximum application rate is 7.5 lb ai/A or greater, and for medium birds when the maximum application rate is 12.5 lb ai/A. Chronic risk quotients for EC products exceed the LOC for chronic risk. Use of both EC and granular products on all use sites is predicted to pose a high risk of causing reproductive impairment in birds.

**Mammals:** Risk quotients for all uses of EC products fall in the range of high acute risk for some herbivorous and insectivorous mammals. The high risk for registered uses on vegetables (maximum application rate of 3 to 6 lb ai/A) is limited to the more vulnerable herbivorous and insectivorous species (i.e., smaller species that feed on plants or small insects). No use of EC products pose a high risk to granivorous species. The high risk for registered EC uses on turf (12.5 lb ai/A) covers a wide range of herbivorous and insectivorous species. For uses of granular products on turf, risk quotients for all uses (maximum application rates 7.5-12.5 lb ai/A) exceed the high acute LOC for small and medium sized mammals. Chronic risk quotients for EC products exceed the LOC for chronic risk. Use of both EC and granular products on all use sites is predicted to pose a high risk of chronic effects in mammals. Risk associated with bensulide use on ornamentals is considered insignificant.

**Aquatic organisms:** Uses of granular bensulide on turf generally poses a high acute risk to



freshwater fish. Use of EC formulations do not pose a high risk to freshwater fish. However, unincorporated broadcast applications of EC formulations on turf, ornamentals, and vegetables at 6 lb ai/A or greater pose a risk that may warrant restricted use classification. Risks are reduced when the following application methods are applied: (1) using lower application rates, (2) limiting the number of applications to one per year, (3) incorporating applications in the soil (vegetable uses only), and (4) using banded applications (vegetable uses only). Risk associated with bensulide use on ornamentals is considered insignificant.

All uses of bensulide on turf generally pose a high acute risk to marine and estuarine fish. Twice-per-year applications on vegetables at 6 lb ai/A each application also poses a high risk. Most other uses on vegetables pose a risk that may warrant restricted use classification. The exceptions are once per year applications at 6 lb ai/A that are both banded and soil incorporated, and applications at 3 lb ai/A that are banded application and/or soil incorporation. Note that these conclusions apply only to use in areas where bensulide may be transported from the use site to marine and estuarine areas.

Use of bensulide on turf generally poses a high acute risk to both freshwater and marine/estuarine invertebrates. Vegetable uses with a maximum rate of 6 lb ai/A generally pose a high risk to marine/estuarine invertebrates, although this high risk can be avoided by applying one application per year that is both banded and soil incorporated. All types of applications to vegetables pose a risk to marine/estuarine invertebrates that may warrant restricted use classification. Uses of bensulide on vegetables does not pose a high risk to freshwater invertebrates, but in some cases pose a risk that may warrant restricted use classification.

Chronic risk to fish and invertebrates could not be assessed because chronic toxicity data were not available. Since bensulide is highly persistent, chronic risk to these organisms must be assumed in the absence of data.

**Plants:** Risk to plants could not be assessed because no data were available on the toxicity of bensulide to nontarget terrestrial and aquatic plants. Since bensulide is an herbicide, risk to all nontarget plants must be assumed in the absence of data.

### **Environmental Fate and Transport:**

Although the environmental fate data base for bensulide is not complete, information from acceptable laboratory studies indicates bensulide is persistent. Neither abiotic hydrolysis nor photolysis are major degradation processes in water or on soil surfaces. The main route of dissipation of bensulide appears to be aerobic soil metabolism with a reported half-life of 1 year. Under aerobic conditions it appears that mineralization of bensulide to CO<sub>2</sub> and immobilization as unextractable residues are the major mechanisms of dissipation in the soil. Under anaerobic soil conditions bensulide did not degrade. Based on the lack of degradation under laboratory conditions, it is predicted that bensulide will be extremely persistent in anaerobic terrestrial ecosystems.

Information from acceptable laboratory studies indicates that bensulide is not mobile in the four soils tested ( $K_{oc}$ 's ranged from 1,433 to 4,326 ml/g); however, the degradates bensulide oxon (N-[(2-(diisopropoxyphosphinoylthio)-1-ethyl]- benzenesulfonamide) and benzenesulphonamide ranged from mobile to highly mobile in the same four test soils. Bensulide has the potential to be transported dissolved in water and on suspended sediment in runoff to surface waters where, based on laboratory data, it is expected to persist. Bensulide has the persistence characteristics of chemicals

found capable of leaching to ground water; however, based on other environmental fate characteristics (i.e., high sorption capacity) and supporting groundwater modeling, bensulide is not expected to leach to ground water.

The environmental fate assessment developed from the results of the laboratory studies has not been confirmed by acceptable field dissipation information. In 8 unacceptable field dissipation studies using bensulide at 6 and 12.5 lb ai/A, the half-life of bensulide was reported to range from 8-34 days in studies conducted in California and from 91-210 days in studies conducted in Mississippi. However, in none of the studies was a consistent decline of parent compound observed. None of the studies is acceptable because the application rate could not be confirmed and bare ground plots were not used for confirmation of application. The study plots had been planted to turf, and no mention was made of how the turf and thatch in the samples were separated from the soil or of any attempt to extract residues from the turf or thatch. In a currently unacceptable but upgradeable field dissipation study, calculated first-order half-lives for bensulide in the top 6 inches of soil were 106.8 days (registrant-calculated) and 80.4 days (reviewer-calculated). Bensulide and its degradate bensulide oxon were found only in the top 6 inches of the soil.

Bensulide does not appear to have a large potential to bioaccumulate in fish with a reported whole body bioconcentration factor of 550X and a whole body elimination of 98% after 14 days depuration.

## **1. Use Characterization**

Bensulide is used for preemergent control of annual grasses and broadleaf weeds in agricultural crops (vegetables), dichondra and grass lawns. Registered use sites include leafy vegetables (mostly head lettuce), golf greens, dry bulb vegetables (onions), cucurbits (mostly melons), cole crops (cauliflower, cabbage, broccoli), peppers, carrots, and lawn care (professional and homeowner applications) (Gowan, 1997a, Gowan, 1997b, Meister, 1995).

There are currently 11 registered products containing bensulide in the U.S.; at least 63 bensulide products have been previously registered. The majority of bensulide products for both agricultural and turf uses are formulated as an emulsified concentrate (EC). A small amount of bensulide is made into granular products for turf and homeowner uses. There is one liquid "ready-to-use" formulation registered, however it is not currently manufactured or sold in the U.S. and is not considered in this evaluation for reregistration (Gowan, 1997a).

Bensulide is applied using ground spray equipment (preplant and preemergence) and in chemigation (preemergence), and is not aerially applied. Bensulide is manufactured into two agricultural products which contain 4 and 6 pounds of active ingredient per gallon (lbs ai/gal). The majority of the agricultural uses involve the 4 lbs ai/gal EC formulation. The 6 lbs ai/gal product was introduced in 1996 and is being used on a trial basis. A 9 lbs ai/gal use has been proposed for cucurbits; however, it is not registered at this time. Technical bensulide is sold to several companies which manufacture bensulide products for turf and ornamental uses. Turf and ornamental uses may use the EC or granular formulations (Gowan, 1997a, Gowan, 1997b).

The principal uses of bensulide are on lettuce, golf greens, onions and melons. Lettuce production in Southwest deserts accounts for one-third of the bensulide use in the U.S. Bensulide use on golf greens in the central U.S. also accounts for about one-third of the use. Onion production

accounts for about 15% of the bensulide use and occurs in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, northeast Colorado, and probably Idaho. There is no use on onions in California or Florida. Melon production in the Central Valley of California and the Rio Grande Valley of Texas accounts for approximately 10 percent of bensulide use. Use on melon and cauliflower crops in Southwest deserts may account for as much as 10% of bensulide use. Specific characterizations of the use areas are given in Appendix A (Gowan, 1997a; Gowan 1997b).

Bensulide is a preplant or preemergent herbicide which affects meristematic root tissues and is usually applied very early in the spring to bare ground before any vegetation is present. The agricultural use rate is typically 5-6 lbs ai/acre, and the 6 lb rate is often used. An exception to this occurs in Southwest deserts, where it is usually applied in the fall and again to a second crop (usually lettuce) about 120 days later. Up to 6 lbs ai/acre can be applied for each crop for a maximum of 12 lbs ai/acre/year. Sprinkler and chemigation systems are used in Southwest deserts to deliver bensulide and often use rates as low as 4 lb ai/acre per application. A 9 lbs ai/gal use has been proposed for cucurbits; however, it has not been registered at this time (Gowan, 1997a, Gowan, 1997b).

Bensulide is applied to turf in the late winter to early spring and must be watered-in to be effective. Typical application rates are 7.5 to 12.5 lbs ai/acre per application, with a maximum application of 25 lbs ai/year. There is minor use of bensulide on commercial turf sod farms, but no reported use in greenhouses (Gowan, 1997a, Gowan, 1997b).

## **2. Exposure Characterization**

### **a. Environmental Fate Assessment**

Although the environmental fate data base for bensulide is not complete, information from acceptable laboratory studies indicate that bensulide is persistent. Information from acceptable laboratory adsorption/desorption studies indicates that bensulide is not mobile in four soils; however, the degradates bensulide oxon and benzenesulphonamide ranged from being mobile to highly mobile in the same four test soils. This environmental fate assessment concentrates on bensulide because it is persistent and the two degradates' concentrations are expected to be low. In an aerobic soil metabolism study, bensulide oxon reached a maximum concentration of 13.8% of the applied at 270 days posttreatment and decreased to 10.1% at 360 days, and benzenesulfonamide reached a maximum level of 0.52% at 360 days. The toxicity of the degradates is unknown.

The main route of dissipation of bensulide appears to be aerobic soil metabolism with a reported half-life of 1 year (363 days). Under aerobic conditions it appears that mineralization of bensulide to CO<sub>2</sub> and immobilization as unextractable residues are the major mechanisms of degradation in the soil. Additional minor degradation pathways include oxidative desulfurization of the phosphorodithioate moiety to form bensulide oxon and cleavage of the C-N bond to form benzenesulfonamide. Under anaerobic soil conditions bensulide did not degrade. Based on the lack of degradation under laboratory conditions, it is likely that bensulide will be persistent in aerobic and anaerobic terrestrial ecosystems. Photolysis is not a major route of dissipation of bensulide in water or on soil surfaces. Abiotic hydrolysis is not a major route of dissipation.

The environmental fate assessment developed from the results of the laboratory studies has not been confirmed by acceptable field dissipation information. In six unacceptable terrestrial field dissipation studies using bensulide at 6 and 12.5 lbs ai/A, the reported half-life of bensulide ranged from 8-34

days in studies conducted in California and from 91-210 days in studies conducted in Mississippi. However, the information provided by these studies is marginal because substantial residues of bensulide were recovered at all sampling depths immediately following application (indicating contamination during sampling). In addition, because substantial residues of bensulide were recovered at all sampling depths at the time of application, the depth of leaching could not be determined.

Two unacceptable studies were conducted on established turf in California with sampling to 39.5 inches. In one study, both bensulide and the degradate bensulide oxon were detected to 27.5 inches, but in the other study, they were detected only in the surface layer. No consistent decline of parent compound was apparent in either study. However, the information provided by these studies is marginal because the application rate could not be confirmed and bare-ground plots were not used for confirmation of application. The study plots had been planted to turf several weeks prior to the first application, and no mention was made of how the turf and thatch in the samples were separated from the soil or of any attempt to extract residues from the turf or thatch.

Supplemental information from an unacceptable but upgradeable study showed that bensulide, when - applied at 10 lb ai/A to a Norfolk soil in NC subsequently planted to cabbage, dissipated with a observed half-life in the top 6 inches of soil of greater than 90 but less than 180 days. Calculated first-order half-lives for bensulide in the top 6 inches of soil were 106.8 days (registrant-calculated) and 80.4 days (reviewer-calculated). The maximum concentration of bensulide found was 5.46 ppm (immediately posttreatment) and mean concentrations ranged from 3.37 to 4.24 ppm between 0 and 90 days posttreatment (range of concentrations 1.56-5.46 ppm). Mean concentrations decreased sharply between the 90- and 182-day sampling interval and decreased to below the Limit of Quantitation (0.05 ppm) by 546 days posttreatment. The degradate bensulide oxon was never present at greater than 0.56 ppm (maximum at 90 days posttreatment) and decreased to the Limit of Quantitation (0.05 ppm) by 182 days posttreatment. Bensulide and its degradate bensulide oxon were found only in the top 6 inches of the soil; rainfall plus irrigation was at least 118% of the 27 year average during the first 5 months of the study. The observed dissipation of extractable bensulide residues in his study was possibly due to microbial metabolism and/or binding to soil. Data indicate that leaching was not an important route of dissipation for bensulide in this study; the significance of plant uptake is unknown because plant material was not analyzed in this study.

Bensulide does not appear to bioaccumulate in fish in laboratory studies, with a reported whole body bioconcentration factor of 550X and a whole body elimination of 98% after 14 days depuration.

Bensulide has the potential to be transported dissolved in water and on suspended sediment in runoff to surface waters where, based on characteristics determined from the laboratory data, it is expected to persist. Bensulide has some of the characteristics of chemicals detected in ground water (persistence); however, because the behavior of bensulide in the field have not been determined (no acceptable field dissipation data), the ground water assessment is tentative. There were no detections of bensulide reported in the Pesticide Ground Water Database.

## **b. Environmental Fate and Transport Data**

### **i. Degradation**

#### **a. Abiotic Hydrolysis**

Bensulide does not hydrolyze quickly at pH 5, 7, and 9 (25°C) with reported half-lives of 230, 220 and 220 days, respectively. These half-lives were extrapolated from a 30-day study. Reported half-lives for pH 5, 7 and 9 at 40°C were 27.7, 27.0 and 26.9 days, respectively, indicating that while hydrolysis rates increased with increasing temperature, there were no changes in the relative rates of hydrolysis at the different pHs. Bensulide hydrolysis products in pH 9 solutions held at 40°C for 40 days included: O-isopropyl S-[2[(phenylsulfonyl) amino]ethyl]phosphorodithioic acid (59.4% of the applied); bis[2-[(phenylsulfonyl)amino]ethyl] disulfide (2.0%); N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-benzenesulfonamide (1.4%); benzenesulfonamide (0.2%). Other identified degradates were isopropanol and O,O-diisopropyl phosphorothioic acid. The study is acceptable and satisfies the data requirement for abiotic hydrolysis (GLN 161-1; 00160074).

#### **b. Photodegradation in Water**

Bensulide is stable to photolysis in sterile aqueous buffer solutions. Bensulide degraded in aqueous pH 9 solutions irradiated with black light (spectral distribution of the black light and sunlight at wavelengths of interest [285 - 450 nm] were comparable) with a calculated half-life of 200 days (corrected for dark controls). The major degradate was desisopropyl bensulide reaching a maximum of 13.0 - 13.6% by day 40. Bensulide oxon was first detected after 21 days of irradiation and reached a maximum concentration of 4.8% at Day 40. Since desisopropyl bensulide was produced in the dark-control study (10.3% of the applied after 40 days irradiation), it was estimated that only 3% of the desisopropyl bensulide present after 28 days of continuous radiation was due to photolysis. The study is acceptable and satisfies the data requirement for photodegradation in water (GLN 161-2; 40513401).

#### **c. Photolysis on Soil**

Bensulide was stable to photolysis on Sorento loam soil in the laboratory. The photolysis half-life of bensulide when applied to thin layers of dried soil slurries that were then exposed to a xenon light source was calculated to be 90 days (rate constant of  $7.6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ day}^{-1}$ ) which was estimated to be equivalent to 220 days of solar irradiation; bensulide did not degrade in the dark controls. After 11.5 days of xenon irradiation (equivalent of 28 days solar irradiation), 89.6% of the radioactivity of the irradiated samples remained as parent bensulide. Bensulide oxon accounted for 4.6% of the radioactivity in the irradiated samples after 11.5 days of xenon irradiation. Three trace components (none exceeding 2% of initial radioactivity) were observed but not identified. No significant amount of  $\text{CO}_2$  ( $\leq 0.6\%$  of applied radioactivity) was formed during the course of the study. Soil bound residues ranged from 0.9-2.6% of the applied radioactivity. The study is acceptable and satisfies the data requirement for photodegradation on soil (GLN 161-3; 42162001).

#### **d. Photodegradation in Air**

Based on the vapor pressure of bensulide (Pure active:  $1.1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Pa}$ ;  $8.2 \times 10^{-7} \text{ mm Hg/Torr}$  [41532001]) and the calculated Henry's constant ( $7.7 \times 10^{-8} \text{ atm-mole/m}^3$ ), bensulide is not predicted to volatilize from either soil or water. Therefore it is not expected that there will be sufficient residues of bensulide in air for photodegradation to be a significant route of dissipation for bensulide.

#### **e. Aerobic Soil Metabolism**

Bensulide was persistent under aerobic conditions in soil in the laboratory. Bensulide degraded with a reported half-life of 363 days in Sorrento loam soil that was incubated in the laboratory under static aerobic conditions in the dark at approximately 25°C. Mineralization to CO<sub>2</sub> appears to be the major mechanism of bensulide degradation under aerobic conditions in soil, with 21% of <sup>14</sup>C-bensulide mineralized after 360 days. The major nonvolatile metabolite was bensulide oxon (maximum of 13.80% of the applied at 270 days posttreatment, decreasing to 10.10% at 360 days), which is formed by the oxidative desulfurization of the phosphorodithioate moiety. Another identified minor metabolite, benzenesulfonamide, reached a maximum of 0.52% at 360 days; it is formed by the cleavage of the carbon-nitrogen bond. Another unidentified compound was present at a maximum of 2.37% at 360 days and, although this metabolite could not be conclusively identified, the molecular weight was determined to be 263 g/mol. Unextractable soil-bound residues increased to a maximum of 18% of the applied radioactivity by 360 days posttreatment. The study is acceptable and satisfies the data requirement for aerobic soil metabolism (GLN 162-1; 40460301).

#### f. Anaerobic Soil Metabolism

Bensulide was persistent under anaerobic conditions in soil in the laboratory. Following a 30 day aerobic soil incubation period in Sorrento loam soil, followed by 60 days of anaerobic incubation [flooding plus N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere], soil-extractable residues contained parent bensulide at 91.15% of the applied; identified degradates were bensulide oxon and benzenesulfonamide (both < 2% of the applied). Unextractable <sup>14</sup>C-residues were 8.22%, evolved CO<sub>2</sub> was 0.40 %, and less than 2% of the applied radioactivity was present in the flood water. The degradate profile after 30 days aerobic incubation was comparable to that in the aerobic soil metabolism study (40460301). Because similar degradates were identified in both the aerobic and anaerobic phase of the experiment, the actual processes controlling bensulide degradation under anaerobic conditions are unknown. Since less than 10% of parent bensulide degraded during the study, an anaerobic soil metabolism half-life for bensulide was not estimated. The study is acceptable and satisfies the data requirement for anaerobic soil metabolism (GLN 162-2; 40460302)

### ii. Mobility

#### a. Batch equilibrium studies

Using batch equilibrium studies, both linear and Freundlich adsorption and desorption coefficients were determined for parent bensulide in each of four soil types. The reported adsorption values for bensulide are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Adsorption coefficients for bensulide (42826701)									
Soil	pH	CEC (meq/100g)	% clay	% Organic matter	Linear isotherm K <sub>ads</sub>		Freundlich K <sub>ads</sub>		
					K	K <sub>oc</sub>	K	1/n	r <sup>2</sup>
Sand	7.8	1.63	1.6	0.54	9 - 15	2973 - 4688	10.965	1.050	0.986
Sorrento sandy loam	6.8	17.3	21.0	3.9	29 - 38	1245 - 1672	30.549	1.093	0.999
Clay loam 1	7.3	19.72	33.6	7.17	77 - 116	1822 - 2753	96.828	1.075	0.986
Clay loam 2	8.1	14.13	31.6	1.34	26 - 45	3247 - 5688	34.041	0.925	0.980

The reported desorption values for bensulide in each of the same four soil types are listed in Table 2.

Table 2. Desorption coefficients for bensulide (42826701)									
Soil	pH	CEC (meq/100g)	% clay	% Organic matter	Linear isotherm $K_{des}$		Freundlich $K_{des}$		
					K	$K_{oc}$	K	1/n	$r^2$
Sand	7.8	1.63	1.6	0.54	16 - 25	5104 - 7721	17.620	1.098	0.989
Sorrento sandy loam	6.8	17.3	21.0	3.9	54 - 71	2366 - 3075	61.802	0.953	0.995
Clay loam 1	7.3	19.72	33.6	7.17	268 - 294	6359 - 6698	277.971	0.996	0.999
Clay loam 2	8.1	14.13	31.6	1.34	76 - 109	9595 - 13773	87.902	1.046	0.990

Based on the reported  $K_{ads}$  and  $K_{des}$  values, it appears that bensulide will be immobile in soils. It also appears that bensulide is more resistant to desorption once it is adsorbed. This study is acceptable and satisfies the data requirement for mobility of **unaged** bensulide (GLN 163-1; 42826701).

Degradates:

Using batch equilibrium studies, both linear and Freundlich adsorption coefficients were determined for bensulide oxon in each of four soil types (the same soils tested with the parent in 42826701). The reported adsorption values for bensulide oxon are listed in Table 3.

Table 3. Adsorption coefficients for bensulide oxon (43180701)									
Soil	pH	CEC (meq/100g)	% clay	% Organic matter	Linear isotherm $K_{ads}$		Freundlich $K_{ads}$		
					K	$K_{oc}$	K	1/n	$r^2$
Sand	7.8	1.63	1.6	0.54	0.38 - 0.86	119 - 270	1.963	0.827	0.981
Sorrento sandy loam	6.8	17.3	21.0	3.9	2.57 - 3.55	112 - 155	4.227	0.947	0.996
Clay loam 1	7.3	19.72	33.6	7.17	9.24 - 14.92	219 - 354	26.485	0.864	0.999
Clay loam 2	8.1	14.13	31.6	1.34	2.22 - 3.19	282 - 405	6.053	0.873	0.997

The reported desorption values (Freundlich  $K_{des}$  only) for bensulide oxon in each of the same four soil types are listed in Table 4.

Table 4. Desorption values for bensulide oxon (43180701)							
Soil	pH	CEC (meq/100g)	% clay	% Organic matter	Freundlich $K_{des}$		
					K	1/n	$r^2$
Sand	7.8	1.63	1.6	0.54	2.089	0.967	0.937
Sorrento sandy loam	6.8	17.3	21.0	3.9	14.928	0.837	0.832
Clay loam 1	7.3	19.72	33.6	7.17	25.235	0.969	0.989
Clay loam 2	8.1	14.13	31.6	1.34	14.859	0.851	0.894

Based on the reported  $K_{ads}$  and  $K_{des}$  values, it appears that bensulide oxon will be mobile in soils. It also appears that bensulide oxon is more resistant to desorption once it is adsorbed. It can be concluded that the degradate bensulide oxon is more mobile than parent bensulide is in the same four soils tested.

Using batch equilibrium studies, both linear and Freundlich adsorption coefficients were determined for the bensulide degradate benzenesulphonamide in each of four soil types (the same soils tested with the parent in 42826701). The reported adsorption values for benzenesulphonamide are listed in Table 5.

Table 5. Adsorption values for benzenesulphonamide (43180702)									
Soil	pH	CEC (meq/100g)	% clay	% Organic matter	Linear isotherm $K_{ads}$		Freundlich $K_{ads}$		
					K	$K_{oc}$	K	1/n	$r^2$
Sand	7.8	1.63	1.6	0.54	0.074 - 0.13	23 - 41	0.079	1.273	1.000
Sorrento sandy loam	6.8	17.3	21.0	3.9	0.269 - 0.456	12 - 20	0.343	1.134	0.985
Clay loam 1	7.3	19.72	33.6	7.17	0.707 - 0.903	17 - 21	0.797	1.020	0.996
Clay loam 2	8.1	14.13	31.6	1.34	0.04 - 0.222	5 - 28	0.088	1.446	0.912

The reported desorption values (Freundlich  $K_{des}$  only) for benzenesulphonamide each of the same four soil types are listed in Table 6.



Table 6. Desorption values for benzenesulphonamide (43180702)

Soil	pH	CEC (meq/100g)	% clay	% Organic matter	Freundlich $K_{des}$		
					K	1/n	$r^2$
Sand	7.8	1.63	1.6	0.54	1.718	1.440	1.000
Sorrento sandy loam	6.8	17.3	21.0	3.9	0.802	1.175	0.816
Clay loam 1	7.3	19.72	33.6	7.17	1.117	1.148	0.969
Clay loam 2	8.1	14.13	31.6	1.34	1.136	1.421	1.000

Based on the reported  $K_{ads}$  and  $K_{des}$  values, it appears that the bensulide degradate benzenesulfonamide will be mobile in soils. Benzenesulfonamide is more resistant to desorption once it is adsorbed. The results indicate that the degradate benzenesulphonamide is more mobile than parent bensulide in the same four soils tested.

The adsorption/desorption studies for the degradates bensulide oxon (43180701) and benzenesulphonamide (43180702) are acceptable and satisfy the data requirement for mobility of **aged** bensulide residues. Together, MRIDs 42826701, 43180701, and 43180702 satisfy the mobility data requirements for bensulide (GLN 163-1).

## b. Soil TLC

The mobility of bensulide and its degradates was assessed using soil thin-layer chromatography (TLC) in four soils (00162706). Soil thin-layer chromatography is no longer considered an acceptable technique for assessing the potential of a pesticide and its degradates to leach through the soil profile. In addition, there were not enough degradates present to adequately assess their mobility (aged material was prepared by preincubating treated soil in the greenhouse for only two weeks). However, this study does provide supplemental information on the parent compound in that it was clear that parent bensulide did not migrate in the thin layers of any of the four soils tested.

## c. Volatility

Based on the vapor pressure of bensulide (Pure active:  $1.1 \times 10^{-4}$  Pa;  $8.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mm Hg/Torr [41532001]) and its calculated Henry's constant ( $7.7 \times 10^{-8}$  atm mole /m<sup>3</sup>), bensulide is not predicted to volatilize from either soil or water. Therefore it is not expected that volatilization will be a significant route of dissipation for bensulide.

## iii. Bioaccumulation in Fish

After 28 days of continuous exposure at 0.022 mg/L, bensulide bioaccumulated in bluegill sunfish (*Lepomis macrochirus*) to tissue residue levels of 12 mg/kg for fillet and whole fish (BCF = 550X), and 14 mg/kg for viscera (BCF = 640X). The uptake rate constant was  $240 \pm 27$  mg/kg fish/mg/L water/day; a steady state plateau was reached within 7 days in whole fish. When bensulide exposure was discontinued, the elimination half-life for the whole body was  $1.5 \pm 0.19$  days; by day 14 of the depuration period 99%, 98%, and 98% of the radioactive residue was eliminated from fillet, whole fish, and viscera, respectively. During the uptake phase on day 21 and 28 the major metabolites

recovered from the fillet and viscera consisted of N-(2-methylsulfinylethyl)benzenesulfonamide, N-(2-methylsulfonylethyl)benzenesulfonamide, and N-(2-methylthioethyl)benzene-sulfonamide. Minor metabolites consisted of benzenesulfonamide, bensulide oxon, N-(2-methylthioethyl)benzenesulfonamide, and an unknown (suggested by mass spectra to be a ring hydroxylated oxon with molecular ion ( $M^+$ ) of 398 ). This study is acceptable and satisfies the data requirement for a fish bioaccumulation study (GLN 165-4; 41931001).

#### **iv. Terrestrial Field Dissipation**

There is no acceptable terrestrial field dissipation information to confirm the environmental fate assessment. However, there are numerous unacceptable studies that provide limited information on the dissipation of bensulide.

Bensulide, when applied at 10 lb ai/A to a Norfolk soil in NC subsequently planted to cabbage dissipated with a observed half-life in the top 6 inches of soil of greater than 90 but less than 180 days. Calculated half-lives for bensulide in the top 6 inches of soil (assuming first-order reaction kinetics) were 106.8 days (registrant-calculated, correlation coefficient 0.95,  $r^2$  0.9025) and 80.4 days (reviewer-calculated, correlation coefficient 0.93,  $r^2$  0.86). The maximum concentration of bensulide found was 5.46 ppm (immediately posttreatment) and mean concentrations ranged from 3.37 to 4.24 ppm between 0 and 90 days posttreatment (range of concentrations 1.56-5.46 ppm). Mean concentrations decreased sharply between the 90- and 182-day sampling interval (from 3.37 to 0.25 ppm) and decreased to below the Limit of Quantitation (0.05 ppm) by 546 days posttreatment. The degradate bensulide oxon was never present at greater than 0.56 ppm (maximum at 90 days posttreatment) and decreased to the Limit of Quantitation (0.05 ppm) by 182 days posttreatment. Bensulide and its degradate bensulide oxon were found only in the top 6 inches of the soil; rainfall plus irrigation was at least 118% of the 27 year average during the first 5 months of the study. The observed dissipation of extractable bensulide residues in his study was possibly due to microbial metabolism and/or binding to soil. Data indicate that leaching was not an important route of dissipation for bensulide in this study; the significance of plant uptake is unknown because plant material was not analyzed in this study. This study is not acceptable at this time because no acceptable frozen storage stability data were provided for bensulide and its degradate bensulide oxon in the soil from the study site (the study samples were stored for up to five years before analysis) and soil characterization data were incompletely identified. This study can be upgraded to acceptable with submission of acceptable frozen storage stability data on the parent and its degradate bensulide oxon and adequate identification of the soil characterization data. The data requirement has not been fulfilled (GLN 164-1; MRID 44297001).

Two unacceptable studies (MRIDs 41694201 and 41694202) were conducted on established turf in California with sampling to 39.5 inches. In one study, both bensulide and the degradate bensulide oxon were detected to 27.5 inches, but in the other study, they were detected only in the surface layer. No consistent decline of parent compound was apparent in either study. The studies are acceptable and cannot be upgraded because the application rate could not be confirmed and bare-ground plots were not used for confirmation of application. The study plots had been planted to turf several weeks prior to the first application, and no mention was made of how the turf and thatch in the samples were separated from the soil or of any attempt to extract residues from the turf or thatch.

In six other unacceptable terrestrial field dissipation studies involved bensulide applications at 6 and 12.5 lbs ai/A (MRIDs 40534901, 40534902, 40534903, 40534904, 40534905, and 40534906).

The reported half-life of bensulide ranged from 8 to 34 days in studies conducted in California and from 91 to 210 days in studies conducted in Mississippi. However, these reported half-lives are suspect because substantial residues of bensulide were recovered at all sampling depths immediately following application (indicating contamination during sampling). In addition, because substantial residues of bensulide were recovered at all sampling depths at the time of application, the depth of leaching could not be determined. Because of the apparent contamination of samples, these six field dissipation studies are unacceptable and cannot be upgraded to fulfill environmental fate data requirements.

Individual summaries of the unacceptable field dissipation studies are provided in Appendix B.

The following studies are in the open literature and do not meet Subdivision N guidelines. However, they do provide supplemental information on the dissipation of bensulide in turf use sites.

In 1988-89, Niemczyk and Krause (1994) conducted a field study using turfgrass preemergent herbicides in Wooster, OH on a silt loam soil with established Kentucky bluegrass that was previously treated with bensulide. Most of a single yearly application of bensulide remained in the thatch layer, with some transport into the surface soil. In plots without thatch, bensulide generally stayed in the top 5 cm of the soil. Bensulide persisted in the thatch layer and in the surface soil between yearly applications. Limited movement to depths of 10 cm was attributed to above average rainfall.

In a study conducted on golf courses on volcanic ash soils in Japan (Odanaka, et al., 1994), only surface runoff and leaching water were analyzed for residues of bensulide; soil samples were not analyzed. In a lysimeter study, bensulide did not leach after application (equivalent to 15 kg/ha) to a simulated putting green. In a field study, two fairways were compared. At the first fairway, surface water had a long distance of overland travel to the point of sampling (20 m), and the area of pesticide treatment was small compared to the total area drained. At the second fairway, surface water had a short distance of overland travel to the point of sampling (1 m), and the treatment area overlay the portions of the subsurface drainage which were closest to the sampling point. After treatment of both fairways with 15 kg/ha bensulide, concentrations of bensulide in both surface water and leaching water were measured following watering at 3, 10, and 38 days posttreatment. Initial samples from the first runoff event from the first fairway contained very little pesticide. There were no differences between the fairways in concentrations in samples after a second runoff event. Concentrations were highest in the earliest runoff events and decreased in the later ones. There was apparently no leaching of bensulide from the first fairway; however, there were bensulide residues in the leachate of the second fairway. The study authors explained this by the proximity of the area of pesticide treatment to the sampling point. Concentrations found in the leaching water were approximately one-tenth those found in runoff water (maximum of 282  $\mu\text{g/L}$  compared to 2840  $\mu\text{g/L}$  in the runoff; Odanaka, et al., 1994).

## **v. Spray Drift**

No bensulide spray drift-specific studies were reviewed. Although there are no means of application of bensulide products which require spray drift studies, droplet size spectrum (201-1) and drift field evaluation (202-1) studies were required due to the concern for potential risk to nontarget aquatic organisms. However, to satisfy these requirements the registrant in conjunction with other registrants of other pesticide active ingredients formed the Spray Drift Task Force (SDTF). The SDTF has completed and submitted to the Agency its series of studies which are intended to

characterize spray droplet drift potential due to various factors, including application methods, application equipment, meteorological conditions, crop geometry, and droplet characteristics. EPA is in the process of evaluating these studies. In the interim and for this assessment of bensulide, the Agency is relying on previously submitted spray drift data and the open literature for off-target drift rates. After its review of the new studies the Agency will determine whether a reassessment is warranted of the potential risks from the application of bensulide to nontarget organisms.

### **c. Water Resource Assessment**

#### **i. Summary**

Bensulide has a long aerobic soil half-life (363 days) in the laboratory and will probably be very persistent in the environment. Bensulide also has a strong binding affinity ( $K_{oc}$  range of 1433-4326 ml/g), and will bind to organic matter, and should not be mobile in the soil. Based on its environmental fate characteristics and supporting modeling, bensulide is not expected to leach to ground water. Estimated maximum concentrations in ground water to be used for exposure and risk assessment purposes should be 0.9  $\mu\text{g/L}$ .

The “1 in 10 year” maximum acute and chronic surface water concentrations were estimated from PRZM2.3-EXAMS2.94 modeling for various crop-soil-climate treatment scenarios (Table 9). For surface water resources, the maximum acute estimated environmental concentration (EEC) was 979  $\mu\text{g/L}$  and the maximum chronic EEC was 947  $\mu\text{g/L}$  when bensulide was modeled at 12.5 lbs ai/A (total of 25 lbs ai/A from two 120-day interval treatments) to New York turf sites using an unincorporated granular formulation.

Water resource monitoring data for bensulide are very limited. The STORET database did not report any detections of bensulide in surface waters. The current ground water monitoring information is considered very limited because the majority of the wells sampled were not located in bensulide use areas. In this assessment, three sets of monitoring data were reviewed. Detections in two wells from Alabama were reported to be from wells installed to monitor injection wells. EFED concluded that these detections resulted from point sources and were not appropriate for estimating groundwater concentrations from non-point sources such as agricultural use of bensulide. Data from samples in California also were not considered useful because of the high limit of detection (5  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) and the small number of samples. In a study conducted in Texas, the majority of the wells sampled were not in a bensulide use area. Only eight wells in Hidalgo County were considered important since they were within a bensulide use area, are likely to be near crops treated with bensulide, and the areas appear to be highly vulnerable to ground water contamination. No bensulide residues were detected in these well samples; however, samples were analyzed only with a general screening method with an unknown detection limit.

#### **ii. Ground Water Assessment**

Based on environmental fate data, bensulide is very persistent ( $t_{1/2}$ =363 d) but not mobile in the soil (mean  $K_{oc}$ =2943). The environmental fate characteristics of bensulide and results from ground water modeling support the conclusion that bensulide is not expected to leach to ground water. Estimated maximum concentrations in ground water to be used for exposure and risk assessment purposes should be 0.9  $\mu\text{g/L}$ .

Bensulide is not currently regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SWDA). EPA's Office of Water has not established a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) or Health Advisories (HA's) for bensulide residues in drinking water. The reference dose (RfD) for a 70-kg adult was established at 0.005 mg/kg/day.

### Estimated Concentrations in Ground Water

The SCI-GROW model (Screening Concentrations in Ground Water) is a screening model used to estimate concentrations of pesticides in ground water under "worst case" conditions. The SCI-GROW model is based on scaled ground water concentration from ground water monitoring studies, environmental fate properties (aerobic soil metabolism half-lives and sorption coefficients) and application rates. SCI-GROW provides an estimate of ground water concentrations for a pesticide applied at the maximum allowed label rate in areas with ground water vulnerable to contamination. In most cases, a majority of the use area will have ground water that is less vulnerable to contamination than the areas used to derive the SCI-GROW estimate (Barrett, 1997).

Results from the SCI-GROW screening model predict that the maximum chronic concentration of bensulide in shallow ground water is not expected to exceed 0.9 µg/L for the majority of the use sites. The "upper bound" of "worst case" application rate of 25 lb ai/acre/season to turf was used in the model. Estimated concentrations in ground water will be proportionally lower if lower amounts are applied. Modeling of bensulide use on vegetables for the Yuma and Imperial Valleys (maximum of 12 lb/ai/season) results in a predicted concentration of 0.46 µg/L. Bensulide use on vegetables in other areas (maximum of 6 lb ai/season) results in a predicted concentration of 0.2 µg/L.

Typical use rates of bensulide for turf and vegetables are significantly less than these amounts; therefore, any bensulide residues reaching ground water should be much less than predicted for the higher application rates.

Uncertainties in the SCI-GROW model include the followings: (1) site specific factors regarding hydrology, soil properties, climatic conditions, and agronomic practices are not considered; (2) volatilization is not accounted for, and (3) predicted ground water concentrations are linearly extrapolated from the application rates.

The SCI-GROW model is based on results from small-scale ground water monitoring studies conducted on highly vulnerable sandy soils with shallow ground water (10-30 ft in depth). These types of soils would be classified as belonging to Hydrologic Soil Group A soils. Highly vulnerable Hydrologic Soil Group A soils generally do not occur in the bensulide use area. Soils in the bensulide use area are predominately Hydrologic Soil Group B soils with limited areas of Group C and D soils. Soils belonging to these groups have less potential for leaching and a greater potential for surface water runoff.

### Comparative Leaching Assessment

The PATRIOT model was used to perform a comparative leaching assessment for bensulide which uses the program PRZM (Pesticide Root Zone Model). PRZM is a one-dimensional, dynamic, compartmental model that can be used to simulate pesticide movement in unsaturated soil systems within and immediately below the plant root zone.

PATRIOT modeling for bensulide was conducted on representative soils in the Yuma and Imperial Valley's of Arizona and California, in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, and in Ohio for turf. Each of these scenarios used, the maximum labeled application rate, the maximum number of applications allowed per year, irrigation, and very shallow ground water (3-6 ft in depth) to simulate "worst-case" conditions.

Complete cropping information was not available for many of the vegetables. The meteorological and soils databases appeared to be complete for the areas modeled. Site specific corrections for general irrigation and evaporation were included in the modeling. Although the PATRIOT model adjusted for general irrigation, it did not account for use of micro-jet/sprinkler irrigation which is now commonly used in the desert areas of the Imperial and Yuma Valleys. These systems use significantly less water than traditional irrigation methods. When bensulide is used with microjet irrigation it is applied as chemigation and applied with the irrigation water that is delivered to the plants. Lower application rates are often used with chemigation, and rates as low as 4 lbs/ai may be used. The use of less irrigation water and lower application rates should decrease the potential for leaching of bensulide in these areas.

The PATRIOT modeling predicted that bensulide would not leach to shallow ground water. Minor leaching (<0.1% of applied) was predicted to occur on a Brennan soil (fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Aridic Haplustalfs) in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. This leaching was considered insignificant and no bensulide was predicted to reach the shallow ground water. The Brennan soil has a high sand content (55-80%), low organic matter (0-1%) and is classified as a Hydrologic Group B soil.

The PATRIOT modeling supports the qualitative assessment for bensulide. Bensulide is not predicted to leach because its high soil sorption affinity (mean  $K_{oc} = 2943$ ) indicates it will bind to soil organic matter. Additional model input information is available in the Appendix C.

Results of both the PATRIOT and SCI-GROW screening models should be considered over estimations, i.e., overly conservative for predicting the leaching potential of bensulide to ground water. Bensulide is not expected to leach to ground water.

#### Ground Water Monitoring Data

No information on the occurrence of bensulide in ground water was available from the US Geological Survey NAWQA studies. The STORET database reports three wells sampled for bensulide in ground water. High detections of bensulide in ground water were reported for two wells in the Mobile Bay, Alabama area in 1987. These detections were reported from wells installed to monitor injection wells. These wells were reported to be 75 and 590 feet deep. Two samples with 7400 µg/L bensulide were reported for one well. Five samples with bensulide concentrations ranging from 5-7400 µg/L were reported for the second well. The detection limit is believed to be 5 µg/L. EFED concluded that these detections were "point sources" and were not appropriate for estimating groundwater concentrations from "non-point source" agricultural use of bensulide.

STORET indicated that a municipal drinking water supply well in Tulare County, California was sampled for bensulide residues in 1985. Three samples were reported from this well with

bensulide  $<5.0 \mu\text{g/L}$ . This is believed to be the detection limit for these samples so it is not known if bensulide was present in the samples at concentrations below  $5 \mu\text{g/L}$ .

EPA's Pesticide in Ground Water Database (PGWDB) indicates that three wells were sampled for bensulide in California and 188 wells were sampled in Texas and (Hoheisel, et al., 1992).

California: EPA's PGWDB and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) report that three wells were sampled for bensulide in Tulare County, California in 1985. EFED reported these samples as containing "0"  $\mu\text{g/L}$  bensulide however further investigation found the limit of detection to be  $5 \mu\text{g/L}$ . This appears to be the same data as reported in STORET; however, the PGWDB provides information on one sample from three different wells while STORET provides information on three samples from one well. Both reports provide information on municipal drinking water supply well(s) in Tulare County, California in February, 1985 and both appear to have a detection limit of  $5 \mu\text{g/L}$ .

EPA's PGWDB and CDFA's data did not provide detailed information on these samples; however, the STORET database provided the geographic location, well number, date of sampling and other parameters. EFED concluded that only one well was sampled and the three samples all originated from the same well. Because of the small number of samples and the high limit of detection, this information was not considered useful for this evaluation.

Texas: The Texas Department of Agriculture conducted a study to determine the impact of agricultural chemical use on rural water quality (Aurelius, 1989). Sampling occurred from 1987-1988 in areas considered to be sensitive to ground water contamination. For most counties sampled, well selection was based on the following characteristics: the well was a domestic water supply, it was near agricultural fields with a history of pesticide use, there was shallow ground water ( $<50 \text{ ft}$ ), and the soils were conducive to leaching.

Eleven counties in Texas were selected for ground water sampling. Eight counties sampled were located in central and north-central Texas, one in western Texas and one in southern Texas. Three hundred ninety two (392) ground water samples were collected representing 188 wells. A multi-residue method was used to screen for over 200 pesticides, including bensulide. The limit of detection is not known.

This evaluation focuses on Hidalgo County in southern Texas since this county has both vegetable production and bensulide use. None of the other counties sampled are known to have any use of bensulide. The selection of wells in Hidalgo County was not based on the general criteria listed above but were "preselected" by the Texas Water Development Board. Sixteen ground water samples from eight wells were sampled. The wells were located near a wide variety of sites including a citrus grove, a nursery, a melon field, orchards, gas wells, and a sewage sludge storage area. Three of the wells were located on farms, one in a subdivision, and two at rural houses. Five of the eight wells sampled were not used for drinking water purposes, however two of these were used for household purposes (laundry, pools, etc.). Soils at seven of the eight sites were reported to be sand to sandy loams; soil at the eighth site was reportedly a loam.

Bensulide was not detected in any of the wells sampled in the Texas study. No pesticides were detected in any of the wells in Hidalgo County; however, nitrates and arsenic were detected in

most of them. These results support our conclusion that bensulide has a low potential to leach to groundwater.

### iii. Surface Water Assessment

#### GENEEC Model

EFED calculates Tier 1 EECs using the GENeric Expected Environmental Concentration Program (GENEEC). The EECs are used for assessing acute and chronic risks to aquatic organisms. Acute risk assessments are performed using peak EEC values for single and multiple applications. Chronic risk assessments are performed using the 21-day EECs for invertebrates and 56-day EECs for fish.

The GENEEC program uses basic environmental fate data and information on application methods to estimate the aquatic EECs following application of a pesticide to a. The model calculates EECs of the pesticide transported from a 10-ha treatment area to a 1-ha, 2-m deep pond. The model estimates loading from agricultural runoff, taking into account adsorption to soil, soil incorporation, and degradation in soil while the pesticide is in the field (i.e., before the first runoff event), as well as adsorption to sediments and aquatic degradation once it reaches the pond. The model also accounts for direct deposition of spray drift into the pond. Spray drift deposition is assumed to be 1% and 5% of the application rate for ground and aerial applications, respectively. For this pesticide, aerobic aquatic metabolism was not taken into account because no data were available to estimate the half-life. This model was run to represent one application and two applications with a 120-d application interval. The environmental fate parameters used in the GENEEC model were:

mean soil $K_{oc}$ :	2943
solubility:	5.6 mg/L
aerobic soil metabolism half-life:	363 days
aerobic aquatic half-life:	None available (input = 0)
hydrolysis (@pH 7):	220 days
aquatic photolysis (@ pH 7):	200 days

(All product chemistry data taken from MRIDs 41532001 and 00157314)

EECs were calculated for both one and two applications per year. Bensulide is typically applied on vegetables once per crop cycle. In southwestern states, however, there may be two crop cycles of vegetables in one year, resulting in two applications within a year. Bensulide may also be applied to turf and ornamentals twice within a year. For both of these uses, the typical application interval is approximately 120 days. The results of the GENEEC model are reported in Table 7.

Table 7. Estimated Environmental Concentrations (EECs) for Broadcast Applications

Use Site	Application Method	Application Rate (lbs ai/A)	Number of Applications (Time Between Applications)	Initial (Peak) EEC (ppb)	21-day average EEC (ppb)	56-day average EEC (ppb)
Garlic and onions	Unincorporated ground spray and chemigation <sup>1</sup>	3	1	18	12	8.2
	Incorporated ground spray <sup>2</sup>	3	1	9.7	6.4	4.3



Table 7. Estimated Environmental Concentrations (EECs) for Broadcast Applications

Use Site	Application Method	Application Rate (lbs ai/A)	Number of Applications (Time Between Applications)	Initial (Peak) EEC (ppb)	21-day average EEC (ppb)	56-day average EEC (ppb)
Vegetables	Unincorporated ground spray or chemigation <sup>1</sup>	6	1	36	24	16
	Unincorporated ground spray or chemigation <sup>1</sup>	6	2 (120 days)	65	43	29
	Incorporated ground spray <sup>2</sup>	6	1	19	13	8.7
	Incorporated ground spray <sup>2</sup>	6	2 (120 days)	35	23	16
Turf and ornamentals	Unincorporated granular broadcast <sup>3</sup>	7.5	1	42	28	19
	Unincorporated granular broadcast <sup>3</sup>	7.5	2 (120 days)	75	50	34
	Unincorporated granular broadcast <sup>3</sup>	10	1	56	37	25
	Unincorporated granular broadcast <sup>3</sup>	10	2 (120 days)	100	67	45
	Unincorporated ground spray <sup>1</sup>	12.5	1	76	50	34
	Unincorporated ground spray <sup>1</sup>	12.5	2 (120 days)	140	90	61
	Unincorporated granular broadcast <sup>3</sup>	12.5	1	70	47	32
	Unincorporated granular broadcast <sup>3</sup>	12.5	2 (120 days)	130	83	57

1 Spray drift is assumed to be 1% of the application rate. Ground spray applications are assumed to be immediately followed by irrigation.

2 Spray drift is assumed to be 1% of the application rate. Soil incorporation assumed to be to 2 inches.

3 No drifting is assumed. Granular applications are assumed to be immediately followed by irrigation.

Bensulide is often applied to vegetables as band treatments in which only the beds are treated. The application on the bed is made at the normal rate, but since not all of the field is treated, the rate of application over the entire field is reduced. The reduction in this rate depends on the proportion of the width of the bands to the width of the space between rows. For the GENEEC modeling, a proportion of 0.75 was chosen because it provides a high exposure case. (Based on additional information, this proportion was later revised to 0.5 when tier 2 modeling was conducted.) Since EECs are assumed to be directly proportional to the pounds applied per acre, banding was assumed to reduce the EECs by 25%. EECs for banded applications are presented in Table 8.

Table 8. Estimated Environmental Concentrations (EECs) for Banded Applications

Use Site	Application Method	Application Rate (lbs ai/A)	Number of Applications (Time Between Applications)	Initial (Peak) EEC (ppb)	21-day average EEC (ppb)	56-day average EEC (ppb)
Garlic and onions	Unincorporated banded spray <sup>1</sup>	3	1	14	9.1	6.1
	Incorporated banded spray <sup>2</sup>	3	1	7.3	4.8	3.2
Vegetables	Unincorporated banded spray <sup>1</sup>	6	1	27	18	12
	Unincorporated banded spray <sup>1</sup>	6	2 (120 days)	49	32	22
	Incorporated banded spray <sup>2</sup>	6	1	15	9.7	6.5
	Incorporated banded spray <sup>2</sup>	6	2 (120 days)	26	17	12

1 Spray drift is assumed to be 1% of the application rate. Ground spray applications are assumed to be immediately followed by irrigation.

2 Spray drift is assumed to be 1% of the application rate. Soil incorporation assumed to be to 2 inches.

On the basis of the EECs determined using GENEEC, HED requested a more refined assessment.

## Tier 2 - PRZM/EXAMS Surface Water Modeling

Tier 2 modeling was conducted for bensulide to generate refined estimates of human exposure through drinking water. These refined EECs were also used in the ecological risk assessment for aquatic organisms.

### Model Inputs

Input values for Tier 2 Surface Water Modeling were obtained from acceptable laboratory studies conducted to support the reregistration of bensulide. The molecular weight of bensulide is 397.52 g/mole and the solubility in water is 5.6 mg/L at 25° C. The reported vapor pressure is  $8.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mm Hg ( $1.1 \times 10^{-4}$  Pa) and the estimated Henry's Law constant is  $7.7 \times 10^{-8}$  atm-m<sup>3</sup>/mol. The "mean"  $K_{oc}$  value of 2,943 ml/g was used to estimate partitioning between soil organic carbon and water. Based on an aerobic soil metabolism half-life of 363 days, the "lumped" degradation rate constant was estimated to be  $1.91 \times 10^{-3}$  days<sup>-1</sup> (PRZM input) or  $7.95 \times 10^{-5}$  hrs<sup>-1</sup> (EXAMS input). Although only a single value for aerobic soil metabolism was reported, the 363 day half-life was not multiplied by a factor of 3 (as described in current OPP modeling input guidance, dated June 1995) because the approximately 1-year half-life value indicates limited degradation occurs via aerobic metabolic processes.

Maximum application rates were derived from product labels (Prefar 6-E emulsifiable liquid concentrate; Pre-San Granular 12.5G). Application timing was obtained from county agricultural extension service information or estimated from label information (e.g., 120-day interval for second treatment). Band applications were assumed to cover at most 50% of the agricultural field (according to the registrant, Gowan), thus the appropriate application rates were decreased by 50%.

Two crop-soil-climate scenarios were modeled. The first scenario was for vegetable crops to estimate EECs from bensulide applied to cole crops (i.e., cabbage, broccoli, etc.) and lettuce in the Sacramento and San Quaquin Valleys of southern California (Major Land Resource Area C-17). The soil was the Lerdo clay loam (fine-loamy, mixed (calcareous), thermic Typic Torrifluvents) and the meteorological file was MET17.MET. The second scenario estimated surface water concentrations for surface water transport of bensulide generated from turf sites. The scenario was based in



Vegetables	Unincorporated ground spray	6	1	42	40	40	39
	Unincorporated ground spray	6	2 (120 day interval)	74	72	72	71
	Incorporated ground spray	6	1	30	28	28	27
	Incorporated ground spray	6	2 (120 day interval)	59	58	57	56
NOTE: Spray drift from ground spray application was assumed to be 1% of the application rate. Spray drift from granular application was set to "Off". Soil incorporation was assumed to be 4 cm.							

### Assumptions, Limitations, and Uncertainties

The Tier 2 modeling assumes a single 10-hectare field generates runoff which is collected in a 1-hectare pond with no outlet. Pesticide application is assumed to be made on the entire field during a single day. The "closed system" (pond with no outlet) is a limitation for estimating surface water concentrations for drinking water sources. Other surface water bodies used as drinking water sources may exhibit considerable flow-through (rivers, streams) or turnover (reservoirs, lakes).

The Tier 2 modeling used an aerobic soil metabolism half-life of 363 days, which was based on a single acceptable laboratory study. This result is uncertain because this was the only value available to estimate the degradation rate constant.

Comparison of the results from Tier 1 and Tier 2 modeling indicated higher EECs for the Tier 2. Some possible reasons for this observed increase are: the persistence of bensulide (based on the laboratory aerobic soil metabolism study); the assumptions in the modeling, such as independence in applications between years, and multiple years of weather in PRZM-EXAMS versus the single year simulated in GENEEC.

The results of the Tier 2 modeling indicated that bensulide was approximately 70% in the dissolved phase [Bill E will think about this]

### **Surface Water Monitoring Data**

Search of the STORET database did not report any detections of bensulide in surface waters.

### **Drinking Water Assessment**

Bensulide is not currently regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SWDA). EPA's Office of Water has not established a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) or Health Advisories (HA's) for bensulide residues in drinking water.

The drinking water assessment discusses the modeling results and monitoring data in both surface water and ground water media for bensulide. Table 10 presents the "1 in 10 year" maximum acute and chronic surface water concentrations estimated from PRZM2.3-EXAMS2.94 modeling for various crop-soil-climate treatment scenarios. For surface water resources, the maximum acute estimated environmental concentration (EEC) was 979 µg/L and the maximum chronic EEC was 947 µg/L when bensulide was modeled at 12.5 lbs ai/A (total of 25 lbs ai/A from two 120-day interval

treatments) to New York turf sites using an unincorporated granular formulation. Based on its environmental fate characteristics and supporting modeling, bensulide is not expected to leach to ground water. SCI-GROW modeling estimated the maximum concentration in ground water to be 0.9 µg/L.

Water resource monitoring data for bensulide are very limited. The STORET database did not include any reported detections of bensulide in surface waters. Two detections of bensulide in ground water were reported in the STORET database, however, they are believed to be “point sources” resulting from injection wells. The current monitoring data is considered very limited because the majority of the wells sampled were not located in bensulide use areas. In this assessment, three sets of monitoring data were reviewed. Detections in two wells from Alabama that were listed in STORET as injection well are point sources and are not considered appropriate for estimating groundwater levels from non-point sources such as agricultural use of bensulide. There were only a small number of samples from California and they had a high limit of detection (5 µg/L) and a small number of samples; therefore, these data were also not considered useful. In a study conducted in Texas, the majority of the wells sampled were not in the bensulide use area. However, eight wells in Hidalgo County were considered important since they were within a bensulide use area and were in an area that appeared to be highly vulnerable to ground water contamination. No bensulide residues were detected in these wells; however, the samples were only analyzed using a general screening method with an unknown detection limit.

Based on environmental fate data, bensulide is very persistent but not mobile in soil. Bensulide has a strong binding affinity ( $K_{oc}$ 's range from 1,433 to 4,326 ml/g) and will bind to organic matter in soil. Results from the SCI-GROW screening model predicted that the maximum chronic concentration of bensulide in shallow ground water is not expected to exceed 0.9 µg/L for the majority of the use sites. This is considered to be a "worst case" or "upper bound" for residues of bensulide in ground water. Bensulide was modeled using a 25 lb ai/acre/season application to turf. Typical use rates of bensulide for turf and vegetables are significantly less than this amount; therefore, any bensulide residues reaching ground water should be much less than predicted by the model. Additional modeling of bensulide use on California vegetables for the Yuma and Imperial Valleys (maximum of 12 lb/ai/season) resulted in a predicted groundwater concentration of 0.46 µg/L. Bensulide use on vegetables for other use areas (maximum of 6 lb ai/season) resulted in a predicted groundwater concentration of 0.2 µg/L.

Table 10. Acute and Chronic Estimated Environmental Concentrations for Bensulide in Surface Water Using PRZM2.3-EXAMS2.94

Use Site	Application Method	Application Rate (lbs ai/A)	Number of Applications (Time Between Applications)	Maximum EEC (µg/L)	Annual Mean EEC (µg/L)
Broadcast Applications					
Vegetables (cole crops)	Unincorporated ground spray	6	1	93	87
	Unincorporated ground spray	6	2 (120 day interval)	165	158
	Incorporated ground spray	6	1	60	54
	Incorporated ground spray	6	2 (120 day interval)	118	112

Use Site	Application Method	Application Rate (lbs ai/A)	Number of Applications (Time Between Applications)	Maximum EEC (µg/L)	Annual Mean EEC (µg/L)
Turf	Unincorporated ground spray	12.5	1	171	165
	Unincorporated ground spray	12.5	2 (120 day interval)	353	344
	Unincorporated granular	12.5	1	445	431
	Unincorporated granular	12.5	2 (120 day interval)	979	947
Banded Applications					
Vegetables (cole crops)	Unincorporated ground spray	6	1	42	39
	Unincorporated ground spray	6	2 (120 day interval)	74	71
	Incorporated ground spray	6	1	30	27
	Incorporated ground spray	6	2 (120 day interval)	59	56
NOTE: Spray drift from ground spray application was assumed to be 1% of the application rate. Spray drift from granular application was set to "Off". Soil incorporation was assumed to be 4 cm.					

### 3. Ecological Toxicity Data

#### a. Toxicity to Terrestrial Animals

##### i. Birds, Acute and Subacute

An acute oral toxicity study using the technical grade of the active ingredient (TGAI) is required to establish the toxicity of bensulide to birds. The preferred test species is either mallard duck (a waterfowl) or bobwhite quail (an upland gamebird). A single dose oral test with the bobwhite quail found the LD<sub>50</sub> of bensulide (92.9% purity) was 1386 mg ai/kg. This classifies bensulide as slightly toxic on an acute oral basis. This study is classified as core and fulfills guideline 71-1. (Grimes 1986, MRID 158455)

Two subacute dietary studies using the TGAI are required to establish the toxicity of bensulide to birds. The preferred test species are mallard duck and bobwhite quail. Results of these tests are tabulated below.

##### Avian Subacute Dietary Toxicity

Species	% ai	5-Day LC50 (ppm) <sup>1</sup>	Toxicity Category	MRID No. Author/Year	Study Classification
Northern bobwhite quail ( <i>Colinus virginianus</i> )	92.9	> 5620	Practically nontoxic	158456 Grimes 1986	Core
Mallard duck ( <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> )	92.9	> 5620	Practically nontoxic	158457 Grimes 1986	Core

<sup>1</sup> Test organisms observed an additional three days while on untreated feed.

In both subacute dietary tests, there was no mortality or overt signs of toxicity at the highest test concentration of 5620 ppm. Since the  $LC_{50}$  is greater than 5000 ppm, bensulide is practically nontoxic to birds on a subacute dietary basis. The guideline (71-2) is fulfilled (MRIDs 158456 and 158457).

## ii. Birds, Chronic

Avian reproduction studies using the TGAI are required for bensulide because the following conditions are met: (1) birds may be subject to repeated or continuous exposure to the pesticide, especially preceding or during the breeding season, (2) the pesticide is stable in the environment to the extent that potentially toxic amounts may persist in animal feed, (3) the pesticide is stored or accumulated in plant or animal tissues, and/or, (4) information derived from mammalian reproduction studies indicates reproduction in terrestrial vertebrates may be adversely affected by the anticipated use of the product. The preferred test species are mallard duck and bobwhite quail. Results of these tests are tabulated below.

Avian Reproduction Toxicity						
Species	% ai	NOEC (ppm ai)	LOEC (ppm ai)	LOEC Endpoints	MRID No. Author/Year	Study Classification
Northern bobwhite ( <i>Colinus virginianus</i> )	92.4	250	600	Several endpoints concerning the hatching and survival of chicks	43616001 Beavers et al. 1995	Core
Mallard ( <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> )	92.4	Not determined ( $< 250$ )	250	Eggshell thickness, percent of eggs laid that are cracked, percent of hatchlings that survived to 14 days	43616002 Beavers et al. 1995	Supplemental
Japanese quail ( <i>Coturnix coturnix japonica</i> )	97.0	100	1000	Hatchability	Shellenberger et al. 1965	Supplemental <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Unreviewed report from the open literature.

These studies show that bensulide, at moderately high dietary concentrations, impairs avian reproduction in both the bobwhite and mallard. The mallard duck is the more sensitive species of the two. Effects observed in mallards given 250 ppm bensulide in their diet included a 15% reduction in eggshell thickness, which resulted in a significant increase in the percent of eggs cracked (5.8%, compared to 0.24% in the control). Survival of hatched chicks was also significantly reduced at this dose (94%, compared to 99% in the control). The study with the mallard duck is supplemental because the NOEC was not determined. Further testing with this species at lower concentrations is required. The guideline is fulfilled for testing with an upland gamebird (71-4a) (MRID 43616001), but it is not fulfilled for testing with a waterfowl species (71-4b).

## iii. Mammals, Acute and Chronic

Wild mammal testing is required on a case-by-case basis, depending on the results of lower tier laboratory mammalian studies, intended use pattern and pertinent environmental

fate characteristics. In the case of bensulide, however, rat or mouse toxicity values obtained from the Agency's Health Effects Division (HED) substitute for wild mammal testing.

A single-dose oral LD<sub>50</sub> study (MRID 92005011) was performed in which technical bensulide (92.5 % pure) was administered to the laboratory rat (*Rattus norvegicus*). The LD<sub>50</sub> was 360 mg/kg for males and 270 mg/kg for females. The geometric mean of the values for males and females was 312 mg/kg. Since the rat LD<sub>50</sub> falls within the range of 51 to 500 mg/kg, bensulide is moderately toxic to small mammals on an acute oral basis. The acute toxicity of bensulide appears to be considerably greater for mammals than for birds.

Chronic Mammalian Toxicity						
Species	% ai	Test Type	Endpoint	NOEC (ppm)	LOEC (ppm)	MRID No.
Laboratory rat ( <i>Rattus norvegicus</i> )	92.4	Multigeneration reproduction	Systemic effects	>900	--	43948701
			F <sub>2</sub> pup survival	150	900	
			Cholinesterase inhibition	--	25	
Laboratory rat ( <i>Rattus norvegicus</i> )	92.4	Developmental	Maternal effects	23	95	00146585
			Developmental	95	--	
			Cholinesterase inhibition	5.5	23	
Rabbit	92.4	Developmental	Maternal effects	20	80	00152845
			Developmental	80	--	

For the purpose of assessing the risk of chronic ecological effects in mammals, the NOEL is 150 ppm and the LOEL is 900 ppm. Rats fed 900 ppm of bensulide had decreased pup survival, whereas rats fed 150 ppm had no effects on reproduction. No developmental effects were observed in rats or rabbits at dietary test concentrations as great as 95 ppm. Other effects were observed at lower concentrations, but they were not believed to be ecologically significant. These effects included tremors (rabbits), increased liver/body weight (rabbits), decreased body weight, and decreased feed consumption. Maternal effects were observed at 95 ppm in rats and 80 ppm in rabbits. Plasma cholinesterase activity was significantly reduced compared to control at dietary concentrations as low as 23 ppm.

#### iv. Insects

Atkins et al. (1975) found that the honey bee acute contact LD<sub>50</sub> is 1.6 micrograms bensulide per bee. This result indicates that bensulide is highly toxic to bees on an acute contact basis. The guideline (141-1) is fulfilled (MRID 00036935).

Although the acute contact study indicated that honeybee LD<sub>50</sub> of bensulide is less than 11 micrograms per bee, the Agency is waiving the requirement for a toxicity of residues on foliage study with honeybees (GLN 141-2). Bensulide is applied as a spray only to bare ground (vegetables uses) or to turf. These uses are expected to result in little exposure to flowering plants, thus exposure to bees is expected to be minimal.

#### b. Toxicity to Freshwater Aquatic Animals



### i. Freshwater Fish, Acute

Two freshwater fish toxicity studies using the TGAI are required to establish the toxicity of bensulide to fish. The preferred test species are rainbow trout (a coldwater fish) and bluegill sunfish (a warmwater fish). Results of these tests are tabulated below.

Freshwater Fish Acute Toxicity					
Species, Test Type (Flow-through or Static)	% ai	96-hour LC <sub>50</sub> (ppm ai)	Toxicity Category	MRID No. Author/Year	Study Classification
Rainbow trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> ), static	92.9	1.1	moderately to highly toxic	157315 McAllister et al. 1986	Core
Rainbow trout ( <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> ), static	95.0	0.72	highly toxic	40098001 Mayer and Ellersieck 1986	Core
Bluegill sunfish ( <i>Lepomis macrochirus</i> ), static	95.0	0.81	highly toxic	40098001 Mayer and Ellersieck 1986	Core
Channel catfish	not reported	0.38	highly toxic	McCorkle et al. 1977	Supplemental (unreviewed open literature)

Since the LC<sub>50</sub>'s for the rainbow trout and bluegill sunfish fall in the range of 0.1 to 1.0 ppm, bensulide is highly toxic to freshwater fish on an acute basis. The guideline (72-1) is fulfilled (MRIDs 157315 and 40098001).

### ii. Freshwater Fish, Chronic

A freshwater fish early life-stage test using the TGAI is required for bensulide because (1) the end-use product is expected to be transported to water from the intended use site, (2) aquatic acute fish LC<sub>50</sub>'s and the waterflea EC<sub>50</sub> are less than 1 mg/l, and (3) the EEC in water is equal to or greater than 0.01 of acute LC<sub>50</sub> and EC<sub>50</sub> values. A further factor that triggers this test is that bensulide is very persistent in water (hydrolysis half-life is 220 days). The preferred test species is the rainbow trout.

No data have been submitted to the Agency on the chronic effects of bensulide to freshwater fish. The guideline (72-4a) is not fulfilled. A freshwater fish life-cycle study (GLN 72-5) may be required depending on the results of the freshwater fish early life-stage test.

### iii. Freshwater Invertebrates, Acute

A freshwater aquatic invertebrate toxicity test using the TGAI is required to establish the toxicity of bensulide to aquatic invertebrates. The preferred test species is *Daphnia magna*. Results of this test are tabulated below.

## Freshwater Invertebrate Acute Toxicity

Species/Test Type	% ai	LC <sub>50</sub> (ppm ai)	Toxicity Category	MRID No. Author/Year	Study Classification
Waterflea ( <i>Daphnia magna</i> ), static	92.9	0.58	highly toxic	159322 Forbis, Burgess, and Frazier, 1985	Supplemental <sup>1</sup>
Amphipod ( <i>Gammarus fasciatus</i> ), static	95.0	3.3 (48-hr) 1.4 (96-hr)	moderately toxic	40098001 Mayer and Ellersieck 1986, also 05001497 Sanders, 1970	Supplemental <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The dissolved oxygen at the four highest test concentrations were unacceptably low (27.2-48.9%).

<sup>2</sup> These LC<sub>50</sub>'s are for mature organisms. The test procedure deviated significantly from the guidelines.

Acceptable toxicity data on the effects of bensulide to freshwater invertebrates are lacking. The data from MRID 05001497, which were also reported in MRID 40098001, are from a study that is scientifically sound but was not conducted according to EPA's test guidelines. Also, the study was a test of adult organisms, whereas the EPA test guidelines require testing with immature organisms that are usually more sensitive to toxicants. Results from the study with the waterflea (MRID 159322) are uncertain because the low dissolved oxygen at the higher dose levels could have contributed to the observed mortality. However, since the dissolved oxygen problem probably reduced the observed LC<sub>50</sub>, this value can be used to give a conservative (i.e., possibly overprotective) assessment of risk.

Based on supplemental data, the LC<sub>50</sub> falls in the range of 0.1 to 1.0 ppm, classifying bensulide as highly toxic to freshwater invertebrates on an acute basis. The guideline (72-2) is not fulfilled.

#### iv. Freshwater Invertebrate, Chronic

A freshwater aquatic invertebrate life-cycle test using the TGAI is required for bensulide because the end-use product is expected to be transported to water from the intended use site, aquatic acute fish LC<sub>50</sub>'s and the waterflea EC<sub>50</sub> are less than 1 mg/l, and the EEC in water is equal to or greater than 0.01 of acute LC<sub>50</sub> and EC<sub>50</sub> values. A further factor that triggers this test is that bensulide is very persistent in water (hydrolysis half-life is 220 days).

The preferred test species is *Daphnia magna*.

No data have been submitted to the Agency on the chronic effects of bensulide to freshwater invertebrates. The guideline (72-4b) is not fulfilled.

#### c. Toxicity to Estuarine and Marine Animals

##### i. Estuarine and Marine Fish, Acute

Acute toxicity testing with estuarine/marine fish using the TGAI is required for bensulide because the end-use product is expected to be transported to estuarine and/or marine habitat from turf and golf course sites, as well as from vegetable sites in certain regions (Florida and the Lower Rio Grande Valley). The preferred test species is sheepshead minnow. Results of these tests are tabulated below.

## Estuarine/Marine Fish Acute Toxicity

Species, Test Type	% ai	96-hour LC50 (ppb ai)	Toxicity Category	MRID No. Author/Year	Study Classification
Sheepshead minnow ( <i>Cyprinodon variegatus</i> ), Flow-through	92.0	560 (measured)	Highly toxic	42750201 Morrow and Ward, 1993	Core
Spot ( <i>Leistomus xanthurus</i> ), Flow-through	95.0	320 (nominal)	Highly toxic	40228401 Mayer 1986	Supplemental

Since the LC<sub>50</sub>'s fall in the range of 100 to 1000 ppb ai, bensulide is highly toxic to estuarine/marine fish on an acute basis. The guideline (72-3a) is fulfilled (MRID 42750201).

## ii. Estuarine and Marine Fish, Chronic

An estuarine/marine fish early life-stage toxicity test using the TGAI is required for bensulide because the end-use product is expected to be transported to estuarine and/or marine habitat from some the sites (turf, golf courses, and vegetables), aquatic acute LC<sub>50</sub>'s are less than 1 mg/l, the EEC in water is equal to or greater than 0.01 of acute LC<sub>50</sub>'s, and the pesticide is persistent in water (hydrolysis half-life is 220 days). The preferred test species is sheepshead minnow.

No data have been submitted to the Agency on the chronic effects of bensulide to marine/estuarine fish. The guideline (72-4a) is not fulfilled. A marine/estuarine fish life-cycle study (GLN 72-5) may be required dependent on the results of the freshwater invertebrate life-cycle test and marine/estuarine fish early life-stage test.

## iii. Estuarine and Marine Invertebrates, Acute

Acute toxicity testing with estuarine/marine invertebrates using the TGAI is required for bensulide because the end-use product is expected to be transported to estuarine and/or marine habitat from turf and golf course sites, as well as from vegetable sites in certain regions (Florida and the Lower Rio Grande Valley). The preferred test species are mysid shrimp and eastern oyster. Results of these tests are tabulated below.

## Estuarine/Marine Invertebrate Acute Toxicity

Species/Test Type	% ai.	96-hour LC <sub>50</sub> or EC50 (ppb ai)	Toxicity Category	MRID No. Author/Year	Study Classification
Eastern oyster ( <i>Crassostrea virginica</i> ), Flow-through shell deposition	92.0	250 (measured)	Highly toxic	42750202 Morrow and Ward, 1993	Core
Eastern oyster ( <i>Crassostrea virginica</i> ), Flow-through shell deposition	95.0	450 (nominal)	Highly toxic	40228401 Mayer, 1986	Core
Mysid ( <i>Americamysis bahia</i> ), Flow-through	92.0	62.4 (measured)	Very highly toxic	42750203 Morrow and Ward, 1993	Core
Brown shrimp ( <i>Penaeus aztecus</i> ), Flow-through	95.0	> 1000 (nominal)	Moderately toxic	40228401 Mayer, 1986	Core

The mysid is the most sensitive of the species tested. Since the mysid LC<sub>50</sub> is less than 100 ppb ai, bensulide is very highly toxic to estuarine/marine invertebrates on an acute basis. The guidelines (72-3b and 72-3c) are fulfilled (MRIDs 42750201, 42750202, and 40228401).

#### iv. Estuarine and Marine Invertebrate, Chronic

An estuarine/marine invertebrate life-cycle toxicity test using the TGAI is required for bensulide because the end-use product is expected to be transported to estuarine and/or marine habitat from some the sites (turf, golf courses, and vegetables), aquatic acute LC<sub>50</sub>'s are less than 1 mg/l, the EEC in water is equal to or greater than 0.01 of acute LC<sub>50</sub>'s, and the pesticide is persistent in water (hydrolysis half-life is 220 days). The preferred test species is mysid.

No data have been submitted to the Agency on the chronic effects of bensulide to marine/estuarine invertebrates. The guideline (72-4b) is not fulfilled.

#### d. Toxicity to Plants

##### i. Terrestrial Plants

No data have been submitted to the Agency on the phytotoxicity of bensulide to nontarget terrestrial plants. Tier 2 terrestrial plant testing is required for bensulide because it is an herbicide that has terrestrial non-residential outdoor use patterns, it could move off the application site via runoff or (for chemigation uses) via spray drift, and might have endangered or threatened plant species associated with the application sites. The required testing consists of seedling emergence and vegetative vigor tests with ten crop species. Six of the species must be dicotyledonous and represent at least four families. One of these species must be soybean (*Glycine max*) and a second must be a root crop. The remaining four species must be monocotyledonous and represent at least two families. One of these species must be corn (*Zea mays*). The test guideline for phytotoxicity to nontarget terrestrial plants (GLN 123-1) are not fulfilled.

##### ii. Aquatic Plants

No data have been submitted to the Agency on the toxicity of bensulide to aquatic plants. Tier 2 aquatic plant testing is required for bensulide because it is an herbicide that has outdoor non-residential terrestrial uses it might move off-site via runoff or (for chemigation applications) spray drift. Phytotoxicity testing is required with five aquatic plant species: *Kirchneria subcapitata*, *Lemna gibba*, *Skeletonema costatum*, *Anabaena flos-aquae*, and a freshwater diatom. The test guideline for phytotoxicity to aquatic plants (GLN 123-2) are not fulfilled.

#### e. Incident Reports

There are no incidents reported in the EPA's Ecological Incident Information System that are attributed to the use of bensulide.

### 4. Ecological Risk Assessment

#### a. Introduction

Risk assessment integrates the results of the exposure and ecotoxicity data to evaluate the likelihood of adverse ecological effects. One method of risk assessment is the quotient method. In this method, risk quotients (RQs) are calculated by dividing exposure estimates by acute and chronic ecotoxicity values:

$$RQ = \text{EXPOSURE} / \text{TOXICITY}$$

RQs are then compared to OPP's levels of concern (LOCs). These LOCs are criteria used by OPP to indicate potential risk to nontarget organisms and the need to consider regulatory action. The criteria identify when a pesticide used as directed has the potential to cause adverse effects on nontarget organisms. LOCs currently address the following risk presumption categories: (1) **acute high**--potential for acute risk is high; regulatory action may be warranted in addition to restricted use classification, (2) **acute restricted use**--the potential for acute risk is high but may be mitigated through restricted use classification, (3) **acute endangered species**--endangered species may be adversely affected; regulatory action may be warranted, and (4) **chronic risk**--the potential for chronic risk is high; regulatory action may be warranted. Currently, EFED does not perform assessments for chronic risk to plants, acute or chronic risks to nontarget insects, or chronic risk from granular/bait formulations to birds or mammals.

The ecotoxicity test values (i.e., measurement endpoints) used in the acute and chronic risk quotients are derived from required studies. Examples of ecotoxicity values derived from short-term laboratory studies that assess acute effects are: (1) LC<sub>50</sub> (fish and birds), (2) LD<sub>50</sub> (birds and mammals), (3) EC<sub>50</sub> (aquatic plants and aquatic invertebrates), and (4) EC<sub>25</sub> (terrestrial plants). Examples of toxicity test effect levels derived from the results of long-term laboratory studies that assess chronic effects are: (1) LOEC (birds, fish, and aquatic invertebrates), (2) NOEC (birds, fish and aquatic invertebrates), and (3) MATC (fish and aquatic invertebrates). For birds and mammals, the NOEC is generally used as the ecotoxicity test value in assessing chronic effects, although other values may be used when justified. Generally, the MATC (defined as the geometric mean of the NOEC and LOEC) is used as the

ecotoxicity test value in assessing chronic effects to fish and aquatic invertebrates. However, the NOEC is used if the measurement end point is production of offspring or survival.

Risk presumptions, along with the corresponding RQs and LOCs, are tabulated below.

#### Risk Presumptions for Terrestrial Animals

Risk Presumption	RQ	LOC
Acute High Risk	EEC <sup>1</sup> /LC50 or LD50/sqft <sup>2</sup> or LD50/day <sup>3</sup>	0.5
Acute Restricted Use	EEC/LC50 or LD50/sqft or LD50/day (or LD50 < 50 mg/kg)	0.2
Acute Endangered Species	EEC/LC50 or LD50/sqft or LD50/day	0.1
Chronic Risk	EEC/NOEC	1

<sup>1</sup> abbreviation for Estimated Environmental Concentration (ppm) on avian/mammalian food items

<sup>2</sup>  $\frac{\text{mg/ft}^2}{\text{LD50} * \text{wt. of bird}}$       <sup>3</sup>  $\frac{\text{mg of toxicant consumed/day}}{\text{LD50} * \text{wt. of bird}}$

#### Risk Presumptions for Aquatic Animals

Risk Presumption	RQ	LOC
Acute High Risk	EEC <sup>1</sup> /LC50 or EC50	0.5
Acute Restricted Use	EEC/LC50 or EC50	0.1
Acute Endangered Species	EEC/LC50 or EC50	0.05
Chronic Risk	EEC/MATC or NOEC	1

<sup>1</sup> EEC = (ppm or ppb) in water

#### Risk Presumptions for Plants

Risk Presumption	RQ	LOC
Terrestrial and Semi-Aquatic Plants		
Acute High Risk	EEC <sup>1</sup> /EC25	1
Acute Endangered Species	EEC/EC05 or NOEC	1
Aquatic Plants		
Acute High Risk	EEC <sup>2</sup> /EC50	1
Acute Endangered Species	EEC/EC05 or NOEC	1

<sup>1</sup> EEC = lbs ai/A

<sup>2</sup> EEC = (ppb/ppm) in water

### b. Nontarget Terrestrial Animals

For pesticides applied as a nongranular product (e.g., liquid, dust), the estimated environmental concentrations (EECs) on food items following product application are compared to LC<sub>50</sub> values to assess risk. The predicted 0-day maximum and mean residues of a pesticide that may be expected to occur on selected avian or mammalian food items immediately following a direct single application at 1 lb ai/A are tabulated below.

Estimated Environmental Concentrations on Avian and Mammalian Food Items (ppm) Following a Single Application at 1 lb ai/A

Food Items	EEC (ppm)	EEC (ppm)
	Predicted Maximum Residue <sup>1</sup>	Predicted Mean Residue <sup>1</sup>
Short grass	240	85
Tall grass	110	36
Broadleaf/forage plants, and small insects	135	45
Fruits, pods, seeds, and large insects	15	7

<sup>1</sup> Predicted maximum and mean residues are for a 1 lb ai/a application rate and are based on Hoerger and Kenaga (1972) as modified by Fletcher *et al.* (1994).

Terrestrial EECs for bensulide were calculated by linear extrapolation of the above values to other use rates. Predicted terrestrial residues (EECs) were not estimated for multiple applications of bensulide. A negligible amount of residues on living vegetation and insects are expected to carry over from the first application to the second because of the long interval between applications (120 days). Terrestrial residues after the second application are expected to be similar to those after the first application.

#### **i. Birds**

#### **EC Products**

Subacute dietary tests with both the northern bobwhite and the mallard found no mortality or overt signs of toxicity when birds were fed dietary concentrations as great as 5620 ppm. Residue levels in the terrestrial environment are predicted to be well below this maximum test level. The maximum EEC is 3000 ppm on short grass following application on turf at 12.5 lb ai/A. Therefore, it is concluded that all uses of bensulide pose minimal risk of acute toxicity to birds. Also, bensulide is not predicted to pose a significant acute risk to T&E species.

Chronic toxicity of bensulide poses a greater risk to birds. Chronic risk quotients were based on a low observable effects concentration (LOEC) instead of a no observable effects concentration (NOEC) since the latter was not available for the most sensitive test species (the mallard). Use of an LOEC in place of an NOEC makes the risk quotient lower and less protective. Therefore, any indication of risk based on these RQ's represent a greater certainty of adverse effects compared to typical chronic RQ's. Risk quotients were calculated based on day-0 EECs because bensulide residues are stable to various routes of degradation (hydrolysis, photolysis, aerobic soil metabolism) and therefore are expected to decline only slowly. The chronic risk quotients for spray and chemigation applications of EC products are tabulated below.

Avian Chronic Risk Quotients for Single Application of EC Products Based on Maximum EECs and an LOEC of the Mallard.

Site, Appl. Method	Application Rate (lbs ai/A)	Food Items	Maximum EEC (ppm)	LOEC (ppm)	Acute RQ (EEC/LOEC)
Garlic and onions, broadcast and banded spraying and chemigation	3.0	Short grass	720	250	2.9*
		Tall grass	330	250	1.3*
		Broadleaf plants and Insects	405	250	1.6*
		Seeds	45	250	0.18
Vegetables, broadcast and banded spraying and chemigation	6.0	Short grass	1,400	250	5.8*
		Tall grass	660	250	2.6*
		Broadleaf plants and Insects	810	250	3.2*
		Seeds	90	250	0.36
Turf and ornamentals, broadcast spraying	12.5	Short grass	3,000	250	12*
		Tall grass	1,375	250	5.5*
		Broadleaf plants and Insects	1,688	250	6.8*
		Seeds	188	250	0.75

\* Exceeds chronic risk LOCs.

For a single broadcast application of EC products, RQs for all registered uses exceed the LOC for chronic risk to birds. RQs exceed the chronic risk LOC for all categories of wildlife food types except seeds. These results indicate that all registered uses of bensulide pose a high risk of causing reproductive impairment in birds. High chronic risk is also presumed for reptiles and terrestrial stages of amphibians. High risk is also concluded for T&E species of these groups.

Bensulide is sometimes applied twice a year with an interapplication period of approximately 120 days. Considering the persistence of bensulide in the laboratory degradation studies, some residues from the first application are likely to carry over to the second application. Niemczyk and Krause (1994) measured residues of bensulide in soil and thatch after two successive years of application at 12 lb ai/A. They found that 13% of the maximum residues found in the thatch and 0-2.5 cm depth after the first application carried over to a second application made at the same time the following year. Due to the long interapplication period (120 days), little residues are likely to remain on foliage of growing grass or weeds, but considerable carryover may occur on dormant seeds. EFED did not have sufficient information to estimate the carryover residues of bensulide on seeds, but it appears that they could be enough to increase the seed risk quotient above the LOC for use on turf and ornamentals at the maximum use rate of 12.5 lb ai/A.

## Granular Products

Birds may be exposed to granular pesticides ingesting granules when foraging for food or grit. They also may be exposed by other routes, such as by walking on exposed



granules or drinking water contaminated by granules. The number of lethal doses ( $LD_{50}$ 's) that are available within one square foot immediately after application ( $LD_{50}s/ft^2$ ) is used as the risk quotient for granular products. Risk quotients are calculated for three separate weight class of birds: 1000 g (e.g., waterfowl), 180 g (e.g., upland gamebird) and 20 g (e.g., songbird).

The acute risk quotients for broadcast applications of granular products are tabulated below.

Avian Risk Quotients for Granular Products (Broadcast) Based on a Bobwhite  $LD_{50}$ .

Site, Application Method	Max. Rate (lbs ai/A)	Proportion of Pesticide Left on the Surface	$LD_{50}$ (mg/kg)	Body Weight (g)	Acute RQ <sup>1</sup> ( $LD_{50}/ft^2$ )
Turf and ornamentals, broadcast	7.5	1.0	1386	20	2.8***
	7.5	1.0	1386	180	0.31**
	7.5	1.0	1386	1000	0.06
Turf and ornamental herbs, broadcast	10	1.0	1386	20	3.8***
	10	1.0	1386	180	0.42**
	10	1.0	1386	1000	0.08
Turf and ornamentals, broadcast	12.5	1.0	1386	20	4.7***
	12.5	1.0	1386	180	0.52***
	12.5	1.0	1386	1000	0.09

$$^1 \text{ RQ} = \frac{\text{Appl. Rate (lbs ai/A)} * (453,590 \text{ mg/lbs}/43,560 \text{ ft}^2/\text{A})}{LD_{50} \text{ mg/kg} * \text{Weight of Animal (g)} * 1000 \text{ g/kg}}$$

\*\*\* Exceeds acute high, acute restricted, and acute endangered species LOCs.

\*\* Exceeds acute restricted and acute endangered species LOCs.

\* Exceeds acute endangered species LOC.

These results indicate that the use of granular formulations of bensulide poses a high risk of acute toxicity to some birds. For all uses of granular products, the avian acute risk quotients exceed the high acute LOC for small birds (20 g). Acute risk quotients for uses at 12.5 lb ai/A or greater also exceed the high acute LOC for medium sized birds (180 g). For all uses, acute risk quotients exceed the restricted use and endangered species LOCs for small and medium birds. In conclusion, use of granular bensulide on turf is predicted to pose high risk to some birds, and triggers concern for T&E species.

## ii. Mammals

### EC Products

Estimating the potential for adverse effects to wild mammals is based upon methods of Hoerger and Kenaga (1972) as modified by Fletcher *et al.* (1994). The concentration of bensulide in the diet that is expected to be acutely lethal to 50% of the test population ( $LC_{50}$ ) is determined by dividing the  $LD_{50}$  value (usually rat  $LD_{50}$ ) by the fraction of the body weight consumed per day. A risk quotient is then determined by dividing the EEC by the derived  $LC_{50}$  value. Risk quotients are calculated for three separate weight classes of mammals (15, 35, and 1000 g), each presumed to consume four different kinds of food (grass, forage,

insects, and seeds). The acute risk quotients for broadcast applications of EC products are tabulated below.

Acute Risk Quotients for Herbivorous and Insectivorous Mammals, Based on a Single Application of EC Bensulide Product

Application Rate (lbs ai/A)	Body Weight (g)	% Body Weight Consumed	Rat LD50 (mg/kg)	EEC (ppm)			Acute RQ <sup>1</sup>		
				—			—		
				Short Grass	Forage & Small Insects	Large Insects	Short Grass	Forage & Small Insects	Large Insects
Garlic and onions, broadcast and banded spraying and chemigation									
3	15	95	312	720	405	45	2.2***	1.2***	0.14*
3	35	66	312	720	405	45	1.5***	0.86***	0.10*
3	1000	15	312	720	405	45	0.35**	0.19*	0.02
Vegetables, broadcast and banded spraying and chemigation									
6	15	95	312	1440	810	90	4.4***	2.5***	0.27**
6	35	66	312	1440	810	90	3.0***	1.7***	0.19*
6	1000	15	312	1440	810	90	0.69***	0.39**	0.04
Turf and ornamentals, broadcast spraying									
12.5	15	95	312	3000	1690	188	9.1***	5.1***	0.57***
12.5	35	66	312	3000	1690	188	6.3***	3.6***	0.40**
12.5	1000	15	312	3000	1690	188	1.4***	0.81***	0.09

$$^1 \text{ RQ} = \frac{\text{EEC (ppm)}}{\text{LD50 (mg/kg) / \% Body Weight Consumed}}$$

\*\*\* Exceeds acute high, acute restricted, and acute endangered species LOCs.

\*\* Exceeds acute restricted and acute endangered species LOCs.

\* Exceeds acute endangered species LOC.

## Acute Risk Quotients for Granivorous Mammals for a Single Application of EC Bensulide Product

Application Rate (lb ai/A)	Body Weight (g)	% Body Weight Consumed	Rat LD50 (mg/kg)	EEC (ppm) Seeds	Acute RQ <sup>1</sup> Seeds
Garlic and onions, broadcast and banded spraying and chemigation					
3	15	21	312	45	0.03
3	35	15	312	45	0.02
3	1000	3	312	45	0.00
Vegetables, broadcast and banded spraying and chemigation					
6	15	21	312	90	0.06
6	35	15	312	90	0.04
6	1000	3	312	90	0.01
Turf and ornamentals, broadcast spraying					
12.5	15	21	312	188	0.13*
12.5	35	15	312	188	0.09
12.5	1000	3	312	188	0.02

$$^1 \text{ RQ} = \frac{\text{EEC (ppm)}}{\text{LD50 (mg/kg)} / \% \text{ Body Weight Consumed}}$$

\*\*\* Exceeds acute high, acute restricted, and acute endangered species LOCs.

\*\* Exceeds acute restricted and acute endangered species LOCs.

\* Exceeds acute endangered species LOC.

The acute risk of bensulide appears to be greater for mammals than for birds. Risk quotients for all uses of EC products fall in the range of high acute risk for some herbivorous and insectivorous mammals. The high risk for registered uses on vegetables (maximum application rate of 3 to 6 lb ai/A) is limited to the more vulnerable herbivorous and insectivorous mammals (i.e. smaller species that feed on plants or small insects). The high risk for registered uses on turf (12.5 lb ai/A) covers a wide range of herbivorous and insectivorous mammals (all except medium to large mammals feeding on large insects). Use of EC products do not pose a high risk to granivorous mammals.

Risk quotients indicate that registration as restricted use is warranted for all registered EC uses. They also indicate that all EC uses pose a risk that triggers concern for T&E species of mammals.

As discussed above for the acute risk of bensulide to birds, there is a potential for significant residues on seeds and waste grain to carryover between applications when two applications are made within the same year. Because the acute risk quotients are low for granivorous mammals, it is not likely that these additional residues would raise the risk quotients above the high risk LOC.

The chronic risk quotients for broadcast applications of nongranular products are tabulated below.

Mammalian Chronic Risk Quotients for Single Application of EC Products Based on Maximum EECs and a Reproductive NOEC of the Rat.

Site, Appl. Method	Application Rate (lbs ai/A)	Food Items	Maximum EEC (ppm)	NOEC (ppm)	Chronic RQ (EEC/NOEC)
Garlic and onions, broadcast and banded spraying and chemigation	3.0	Short grass	720	150	4.8*
		Tall grass	330	150	2.2*
		Broadleaf plants and Insects	405	150	2.7*
		Seeds	45	150	0.30
Vegetables, broadcast and banded spraying and chemigation	6.0	Short grass	1,440	150	9.6*
		Tall grass	660	150	4.4*
		Broadleaf plants and Insects	810	150	5.4*
		Seeds	90	150	0.60
Turf and ornamentals, broadcast spraying	12.5	Short grass	3,000	150	20*
		Tall grass	1,375	150	9.2*
		Broadleaf plants and Insects	1,688	150	11*
		Seeds	188	150	1.3*

\* Exceeds chronic risk LOCs.

For a single broadcast application of EC products, risk quotients for all registered uses exceed the LOC for chronic risk to mammals. Risk quotients exceed the chronic risk LOC for all categories of wildlife food types for use on turf and ornamentals, and all wildlife food types except seeds for use on vegetables. These results indicate that all registered uses of bensulide pose a high risk of causing chronic reproductive effects in mammals and may harm endangered mammal species.

As discussed previously, when there are two applications within the same year, there is a potential for some residues from the first application to carryover to the time of the second application. This could increase the chronic risk when bensulide is applied twice within one year. The residues carried over would probably be significant only in seeds and waste grain lying on the soil surface. The amount that this carryover would increase the chronic risk to mammals consuming seeds is not known, but it is unlikely that addition of carried over residues would change the risk quotients enough to change the chronic risk conclusions for mammals.

## Granular Products

Mammals may be exposed to granular pesticides by ingesting granules, either intentionally for grit or unintentionally while foraging. They also may be exposed by other routes, such as by walking on exposed granules and drinking water contaminated by granules. The number of lethal doses (LD<sub>50</sub>'s) that are available within one square foot immediately after application (LD<sub>50</sub>'s/ft<sup>2</sup>) can be used as a risk quotient for the various types of exposure to

granular pesticides. Risk quotients are calculated for three separate weight classes of mammals: 15 g, 35 g and 1000 g.

Mammalian Acute Risk Quotients for Granular Products (Broadcast) Based on a Rat LD<sub>50</sub>.

Site, Application Method	Application Rate (lbs ai/A)	Fraction of Pesticide Exposed on the Surface	Body Weight (g)	Rat LD <sub>50</sub> (mg/kg)	Acute RQ <sup>1</sup> (LD <sub>50</sub> /ft <sup>2</sup> )
Turf, broadcast	7.5	1	15	312	17 ***
	7.5	1	35	312	7.1 ***
	7.5	1	1000	312	0.25 **
Turf and ornamental herbs, broadcast	10	1	15	312	22 ***
	10	1	35	312	9.5 ***
	10	1	1000	312	0.33 **
Turf and ornamentals, broadcast	12.5	1	15	312	28 ***
	12.5	1	35	312	12 ***
	12.5	1	1000	312	0.42 **

$$^1 \text{ RQ} = \frac{\text{Appl. Rate (lbs ai/A)} * (453,590 \text{ mg/lbs}/43,560 \text{ ft}^2/\text{A})}{\text{LD}_{50} \text{ mg/kg} * \text{Weight of Animal (g)} * 1000 \text{ g/kg}}$$

\*\*\* Exceeds acute high, acute restricted, and acute endangered species LOCs.

\*\* Exceeds acute restricted and acute endangered species LOCs.

\* Exceeds acute endangered species LOC.

The acute risk of bensulide is greater for mammals than for birds. Risk quotients for all uses of granular products indicate high acute risk for mammals. The risk quotients for uses from 6 to 12.5 lb ai/A exceed the LOC for high risk for small and medium sized mammals. Risk quotients for all uses indicate that registration under restricted use may be appropriate, and indicates risk to T&E species of mammals.

Currently, EFED does not have a standard procedure for assessing chronic risk to mammalian species for granular products.

### iii. Insects

Currently, EFED does not assess risk to nontarget insects. However, with an acute contact LD<sub>50</sub> of 1.6 microgram ai per bee, bensulide is highly toxic to nontarget insects. Considering the high use rates of this herbicide, use of the EC formulations of bensulide potentially poses a high risk to bees and other beneficial insects. Exposure to honeybees is expected to be low for vegetable uses, in which applications are made on bare ground, but high for turf uses. Use of granular formulations are assumed to pose a low risk to these organisms.

## c. Nontarget Freshwater Animals

### i. Freshwater Fish

Risk quotients for freshwater fish are given below.

Freshwater Fish Acute Risk Quotients for Single Application Based on a Rainbow Trout LC<sub>50</sub>

Use Site	Application Method	Rate in lb ai/A	Number of Applications	LC50 (ppb)	Peak EEC (ppb)	Acute RQ (EEC/LC50)
Garlic and onions	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	3	1	720	47	0.06*
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	3	1	720	30	0.04
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	3	1	720	21	0.03
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	3	1	720	15	0.02
Vegetables	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	6	1	720	93	0.13**
	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	6	2	720	165	0.23**
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	6	1	720	60	0.08*
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	6	2	720	118	0.16**
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	6	1	720	42	0.06*
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	6	2	720	74	0.10**
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	6	1	720	30	0.04
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	6	2	720	59	0.08*
Turf and ornamentals	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	7.5	1	720	267	0.37**
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	7.5	2	720	587	0.82***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	10	1	720	356	0.49**
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	10	2	720	783	1.1***
	Broadcast EC spray, unincorporated	12.5	1	720	171	0.24**
	Broadcast EC spray, unincorporated	12.5	2	720	353	0.49**
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	12.5	1	720	445	0.62***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	12.5	2	720	979	1.4***

\*\*\* Exceeds acute high, acute restricted, and acute endangered species LOCs.

\*\* Exceeds acute restricted and acute endangered species LOCs.

\* Exceeds acute endangered species LOC.

The risk quotients indicate high risk to freshwater fish from once-per-year applications of granular bensulide at a rate of 12.5 lb ai/A, and twice-per-year applications of granular bensulide at 7.5 lb ai/A or more. Risk quotients for all remaining turf and ornamental uses exceed the LOC for consideration of restricted use classification. For vegetable uses at 6 lb ai/A, the restricted use LOC is exceeded for single broadcast applications without soil

incorporation, and all twice-per year applications except those that are both banded and incorporated. For vegetable uses at 3 lb ai/A, no LOC is exceeded except that for threatened and endangered species, which is exceeded for unincorporated applications.

**In summary, uses of granular bensulide on turf and ornamentals generally poses a high acute risk to freshwater fish. Use of EC formulations do not pose a high risk to freshwater fish. However, unincorporated broadcast applications of EC formulations on turf, ornamentals, vegetables at 6 lb ai/A or greater pose a risk that may warrant restricted use classification. Risks are reduced when the following application methods are applied: (1) using of lower application rates, (2) limiting the number of application to one per year, (3) incorporating applications in the soil, and (3) using banded applications.**

## **ii. Freshwater Invertebrates**

Risk to freshwater invertebrates was assessed based on supplemental toxicity results for *Daphnia magna*. In this acute study, low dissolved oxygen concentrations were present in the four highest test concentrations, and oxygen levels declined as the test concentration increased. The low oxygen levels might have contributed to the observed mortality, thus decreasing the observed LC<sub>50</sub>. Despite this uncertainty, the actual LC<sub>50</sub> for *Daphnia magna* is not likely to be greater than the observed value of 0.58 mg ai/L. This value was thus therefore used to give a conservative (i.e., possibly overprotective) assessment of the risk of bensulide to freshwater invertebrates. This assessment should be revised when acceptable acute toxicity data for a freshwater invertebrate becomes available.

The acute risk quotients are tabulated below.

Freshwater Invertebrate Acute Risk Quotients Based on a *Daphnia magna* LC<sub>50</sub> and PRZM/EXAMS exposure estimates.

Use Site	Application Method	Rate in lb ai/A	Number of Applications	LC50 (ppb)	Peak EEC (ppb)	Acute RQ (EEC/LC50)
Garlic and onions	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	3	1	580	47	0.081*
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	3	1	580	30	0.052*
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	3	1	580	21	0.036
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	3	1	580	15	0.026
Vegetables	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	6	1	580	93	0.16**
	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	6	2	580	165	0.28**
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	6	1	580	60	0.10**
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	6	2	580	118	0.20**
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	6	1	580	42	0.072*
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	6	2	580	74	0.13**
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	6	1	580	30	0.052*
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	6	2	580	59	0.10**
Turf and ornamentals	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	7.5	1	580	270	0.47**
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	7.5	2	580	590	1.0***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	10	1	580	360	0.62***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	10	2	580	780	1.3***
	Broadcast EC spray, unincorporated	12.5	1	580	170	0.29**
	Broadcast EC spray, unincorporated	12.5	2	580	350	0.60***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	12.5	1	580	450	0.78***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	12.5	2	580	980	1.7***

\*\*\* Exceeds acute high, acute restricted, and acute endangered species LOCs.

\*\* Exceeds acute restricted and acute endangered species LOCs.

\* Exceeds acute endangered species LOC.

Risk quotients indicate that turf and ornamental uses generally exceed the LOC for high acute risk to freshwater invertebrates. The only exception is the risk quotient for a single application of granular product at 7.5 lb ai/A, which falls just below the high risk LOC. The greatest risk quotient is 1.7 for two granular applications of bensulide at 12.5 lb ai/A each.



Risk quotients for vegetable uses at 6 lb ai/A do not exceed the LOC high acute risk; however, they exceed the LOC for risk that may warrant restricted use for all twice-per-year applications and single broadcast and incorporated applications that are not incorporated. For all uses of bensulide, the risk quotient exceed the LOC for risk to T&E species except for banded applications 3 bl.

**In summary, most uses of bensulide on turf and ornamentals pose a high acute risk to freshwater invertebrates. Use of bensulide on vegetables pose a risk that might be mitigated by restricted use when the use rate is 6 lb ai/A and applications are not banded, and whenever more than one application is made per year.**

#### **d. Estuarine and Marine Animals**

##### **i. Estuarine and Marine Fish**

The acute risk quotients for estuarine and marine fish are tabulated below.

Estuarine/Marine Fish Acute Risk Quotients for Single Application Based on a Spot LC<sub>50</sub>

Use Site	Application Method	Rate in lb ai/A	Number of Applications	LC50 (ppb)	Peak EEC (ppb)	Acute RQ (EEC/LC50)
Garlic and onions	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	3	1	320	47	0.15**
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	3	1	320	30	0.09*
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	3	1	320	21	0.07*
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	3	1	320	15	0.05
Vegetables	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	6	1	320	93	0.29**
	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	6	2	320	165	0.51***
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	6	1	320	60	0.19**
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	6	2	320	118	0.37**
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	6	1	320	42	0.13**
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	6	2	320	74	0.23**
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	6	1	320	30	0.09*
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	6	2	320	59	0.18**
Turf and ornamentals	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	7.5	1	320	267	0.83***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	7.5	2	320	587	1.8***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	10	1	320	356	1.1***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	10	2	320	783	2.4***
	Broadcast EC spray, unincorporated	12.5	1	320	171	0.53***
	Broadcast EC spray, unincorporated	12.5	2	320	353	1.1***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	12.5	1	320	445	1.4***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	12.5	2	320	979	3.1***

\*\*\* Exceeds acute high, acute restricted, and acute endangered species LOCs.

\*\* Exceeds acute restricted and acute endangered species LOCs.

\* Exceeds acute endangered species LOC.

The risk quotients indicate that all uses of bensulide on turf and ornamentals pose a high risk to estuarine and marine invertebrates. For vegetables, high risk is indicated only for twice-per-year unincorporated broadcast applications at 6 lb ai/A. All other uses on vegetables at 6 lb ai/A exceed the LOC for risk that may warrant restricted use classification.

The restricted use LOC is also exceeded for unincorporated broadcast applications at 3 lb ai/A. All uses of bensulide pose a risk to T&E species except for applications on vegetables at 3 lb ai/A that are both banded and incorporated.

**In summary, all use of bensulide on turf and ornamentals generally pose a high acute risk to marine and estuarine fish. Twice-per-year applications on vegetables at 6 lb ai/A each also poses a high risk. Most other uses on vegetables pose a risk that may warrant restricted use classification. The exceptions are once per year applications at 6 lb ai/A that are both banded and soil incorporated, and applications at 3 lb ai/A that are banded application and/or soil incorporation. Note that these conclusions apply only to use in areas where bensulide is likely to be transported from the use site to marine and estuarine habitats (see section 5 below).**

## **ii. Estuarine and Marine Invertebrates**

The acute risk quotients for estuarine and marine invertebrates are tabulated below.

Estuarine/Marine Invertebrate Acute Risk Quotients for Single Application Based on a Mysid LC<sub>50</sub>

Use Site	Application Method	Rate in lb ai/A	Number of Applications	LC50 (ppb)	Peak EEC (ppb)	Acute RQ (EEC/LC50)
Garlic and onions	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	3	1	62.4	47	0.75***
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	3	1	62.4	30	0.48**
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	3	1	62.4	21	0.33**
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	3	1	62.4	15	0.24**
Vegetables	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	6	1	62.4	93	1.5***
	Broadcast EC spray and chemigation, unincorporated	6	2	62.4	165	2.6***
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	6	1	62.4	60	0.96***
	Broadcast EC spray, incorporated	6	2	62.4	118	1.9***
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	6	1	62.4	42	0.67***
	Banded EC spray, unincorporated	6	2	62.4	74	1.2***
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	6	1	62.4	30	0.48**
	Banded EC spray, incorporated	6	2	62.4	59	0.95***
Turf and ornamentals	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	7.5	1	62.4	270	4.3***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	7.5	2	62.4	590	9.4***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	10	1	62.4	360	5.7***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	10	2	62.4	780	13***
	Broadcast EC spray, unincorporated	12.5	1	62.4	170	2.7***
	Broadcast EC spray, unincorporated	12.5	2	62.4	350	5.7***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	12.5	1	62.4	450	7.1***
	Broadcast granular application, unincorporated	12.5	2	62.4	980	16***

\*\*\* Exceeds acute high, acute restricted, and acute endangered species LOCs.

\*\* Exceeds acute restricted and acute endangered species LOCs.

\* Exceeds acute endangered species LOC.

Risk quotients indicate high risk to estuarine and marine invertebrates for all uses on turf and ornamentals, all uses on vegetables at 6 lb ai/A other than single applications that are banded and incorporated, and use on vegetables at 3 lb ai/A with unincorporated broadcast application. All remaining uses exceed the risk quotient for risk that may warrant restricted use. All uses pose a risk to T&E species of freshwater invertebrates.

**In summary, most uses of bensulide pose a high acute risk to marine and estuarine invertebrates. High risk for most vegetable uses (with a maximum rate of 6 lb ai/A) may be avoided only by using banded applications with soil incorporation and making only one application per year. However, even this application results in risk that may warrant restricted use classification. Note that these conclusions apply only to use in areas where bensulide may be transported from the use site to marine and estuarine areas (see section 5 below).**

#### **e. Exposure and Risk to Nontarget Plants**

Risks to nontarget terrestrial, semiaquatic, and aquatic plants cannot be assessed at this time because phytotoxicity data are not available for bensulide.

#### **f. Bioaccumulation**

Measured bioconcentration factors (BCFs) of bensulide in bluegill sunfish were 550 in whole fish, 550 in muscle tissue, and 640 in visceral tissues (MRID 41931001). This indicates that the bioconcentration of bensulide is not very great despite having a high  $K_{ow}$  ( $1.65 \times 10^4$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ), which indicates a strong affinity to lipids. Bensulide depurates rapidly from fish when they are placed in uncontaminated water. The elimination half-life in bluegill (whole body) was  $1.5 \pm 0.19$  days, and 98% of the radioactive residue was eliminated from the whole fish tissue by day 14 (MRID 41931001). A rat metabolism study (MRIDs 42007901-42007904) found that bensulide was rapidly metabolized and excreted in the urine. Total urinary excretion of  $^{14}\text{C}$ -bensulide equivalents during 7 days after administration accounted for 70-88 % of the administered dose. Very low residual radioactivity (0.02-0.21% of the dose) was found in organs and tissues 7 days after a single dose administration.

These results suggest that vertebrates are efficient at biotransforming bensulide into metabolites that can be readily excreted. Bioaccumulation of bensulide in vertebrate tissues through bioconcentration or biomagnification is therefore not expected from short-term exposures. Because bensulide is persistent in aquatic environments, however, organisms in aquatic habitats where the water is not flowing (such as ponds) may be exposed to relatively high levels of bensulide for extensive durations. Bensulide in tissues of these organisms may remain several hundred times greater than the ambient concentrations, and birds, mammals, and reptiles feeding on these organisms would be exposed to these elevated concentrations. Risk to piscivorous birds and mammals from food chain exposure is assessed below.

Based on the PRZM/EXAMS modeling, 21-day average EECs of bensulide in water are expected to range from 28 to 966 ppb, depending on use rate and application method. Based on a BCF of 550, birds consuming whole fish would be exposed to dietary concentrations of 15.4 to 531 ppm. Avian reproduction studies show that reproductive effects occur in birds at dietary concentrations as low as 250 ppm ai. The NOEC for ecologically significant chronic effects in mammals is 150 ppm ai. Therefore, it appears that birds and mammals feeding on fish in water contaminated with bensulide could in some cases receive enough exposure to cause chronic effects. This risk is likely to be limited to animals feeding on fish in stagnant water where high concentrations of bensulide are persistent. In flowing water, bensulide would rapidly depurate from fish once the contamination passes, causing tissue concentrations to decline.

## **g. Endangered Species**

Most uses of bensulide pose unacceptable risk of harming threatened and endangered (T&E) plants and animals of all taxa. Acute and/or chronic risk quotients exceed the LOC for endangered species for birds, mammals, fish, and aquatic invertebrates. Because bensulide is highly toxic to the honey bee, risk is assumed for T&E insects. For use on vegetables, acute risk to fish may be avoided if the application is banded and soil incorporated and only a single application is made per year. However, without data on chronic effects to fish, even this use could pose unacceptable risk from chronic exposures. Unacceptable risk to T&E plants is assumed because bensulide is an herbicide and phytotoxicity data have not been submitted to the Agency to indicate otherwise. Measures should be taken to protect all T&E species if their distribution and natural history are such that they may be exposed to bensulide.

The Endangered Species Protection Program is expected to become final in the future. Limitations in the use of bensulide will be required to protect endangered and threatened species, but these limitations have not been defined and may be formulation specific. EPA anticipates that a consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service will be conducted in accordance with the species-based priority approach described in the Program. After completion of consultation, registrants will be informed if any required label modifications are necessary. Such modifications would most likely consist of the generic label statement referring pesticide users to use limitations contained in county Bulletins.

## **5. Risk Characterization**

Risk characterization is a qualitative assessment of risks that expands on the environmental fate and ecological effects risk assessments. It includes discussions of other factors that may affect risk but were not considered in the quantitative risk assessments.

### **a. Vegetable Uses**

Bensulide is applied on various vegetable crops in the spring for preemergent control of grass weeds. The primary geographical areas of this use are the desert Southwest (specifically Imperial Co., CA and Yuma Co., AZ), the Central Valley of California, the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, and in other isolated regions of Texas, Colorado, Idaho, and Florida. Bensulide is applied to vegetable crops as an EC spray at a maximum rate of 6 lb ai/A per application, with typical rates ranging from 5 to 6 lb ai/A per application. There may be two applications per year, for a maximum rate of 12 lb ai/A per year. Fields are sprayed normally with ground equipment, or by chemigation using drip or microjet irrigation systems. None of these application methods are expected to result in appreciable spray drift.

### Risk to Terrestrial Ecosystems

Bensulide has low acute toxicity to birds. The dietary  $LC_{50}$  of the northern bobwhite and the mallard are greater than 5620 ppm, the maximum concentration tested. The acute toxicity of bensulide is significantly greater for mammals than for birds. The  $LD_{50}$  of bensulide is 360 and 270 mg/kg for male and female rats, respectively, compared to 1386 mg/kg for the bobwhite. The risk assessment indicated a high acute risk for mammals but not

for birds. However, there are several factors which were not considered in this assessment that would likely reduce the acute risk to mammals:

- Bensulide is normally applied to bare ground in the spring to control weeds before they emerge. There is therefore little vegetation on a treated field that would receive direct spray. Dietary exposure to wildlife feeding in the fields would be primarily limited to insects and seeds, for which predicted pesticide residues are low compared to residues on vegetation (Fletcher et al., 1994; Hoeger and Kenaga, 1972). Furthermore, many of these seeds and insects will be beneath the soil surface and thus would not receive direct spray.
- Bensulide is applied to vegetable fields using ground equipment that directs the spray to the ground or using drip or microjet chemigation systems which produce minimal spray drift. Therefore, little exposure is expected due to residues on vegetation in offsite habitats.
- To be effective, bensulide must be incorporated into the soil either by mechanical incorporation or by irrigation. This is clearly stated on the label. This practice would distribute the chemical into the soil, making less available to wildlife feeding on the surface.

Because of the above factors, use of bensulide is not expected to pose serious risk to terrestrial organisms, including mammals, due to acute effects.

However, the risk assessment indicated that residues on grass, broadleaf plants, and insects (if sprayed directly) would be great enough to pose a high chronic risk to birds and mammals. Risk quotients for these food items ranged from 3.2 to 5.8 for birds and from 5.4 to 9.6 for mammals. It should be noted that the chronic risk quotients for birds were calculated using the LOEL instead of the NOEL; if they were calculated based on the NOEL, they would have been even greater. Despite the factors discussed above for acute risk, this chronic risk of bensulide cannot be discounted. The environmental fate assessment clearly indicates that bensulide is very persistent in the environment, which increases the concern for chronic risk. Laboratory studies indicate that bensulide is immobile and stable to degradation, and field dissipation studies confirmed that bensulide residues can persist in soil (half-lives were approximately 100 days). There is thus uncertainty as to where the chemical goes in the environment. It is possible that bensulide may be taken up by plants and invertebrates and thereby may enter the food web, ultimately affecting higher organisms. Bensulide has a high  $K_{ow}$  ( $1.65 \times 10^4$ ), which is correlated with accumulation in organisms. Although bensulide does not bioconcentrate to a great extent in fish (BCFs 550-640), the amount of bioaccumulation in plants and invertebrates is unknown. The chronic risk to terrestrial animals is therefore considered potentially high.

#### Risk to Aquatic Ecosystems

Bensulide does not pose a high risk to freshwater ecosystems from acute toxicity. For vegetable uses, acute risk to fish is not high but is sufficient to warrant restricted use classification for some types of uses. The Agency cannot accurately assess the risk to freshwater invertebrates since acceptable acute and chronic data have not been provided.

However, supplemental data *Daphnia magna* indicate that use of bensulide on vegetables does not pose a high risk to aquatic invertebrates. Although not assessed, runoff of bensulide could potentially harm aquatic plants.

Chronic risk to fish and invertebrates is a serious concern because aquatic residues of bensulide are expected to be very persistent in water and aquatic sediments, and because chronic effects usually occur at lower concentrations than acute effects. It is imperative that aquatic tests be conducted to measure the chronic toxicity of bensulide. In the meantime, the Agency should assume that the chronic risk to aquatic organisms is high.

Concern for aquatic risk is reduced in the major use areas of Arizona and California because regional conditions create a low potential for transporting bensulide in runoff. These areas are very flat and have very little rainfall. The irrigation systems used in these areas are generally drip or microjet sprayers, neither of which generates a significant amount of runoff. In addition, aquatic habitats in this region are scarce. Except for endangered species, risk to aquatic ecosystems in these areas is not a major concern. There is a greater concern for use in other areas that are in more moist climates, such as Dade County of Florida and the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas.

Risk to marine and estuarine habitats is greater than that for freshwater habitats due to the apparent greater sensitivity of saltwater species to bensulide. All risk quotients for turf indicate high acute risks to fish and invertebrates. However, much of the use of bensulide on vegetables is in areas that are not associated with marine or estuarine habitats. Bensulide is used in desert areas along the lower Colorado River in California and Arizona, but there is very little runoff from agricultural fields that would flow into this river. Areas of the Central Valley region of California drain into the Sacramento River, which eventually flows into the San Francisco Bay, but bensulide residues probably would be diluted to insignificant amounts by the time they reached this estuary. The only use areas where there is a risk to marine and estuarine areas are the lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas and Dade County in Florida. The high amount of rainfall exacerbates the risk to estuarine habitats in these areas.

Reduction of application rate, banding applications, and soil incorporation appear to be effective ways to mitigate acute aquatic risks. These methods are especially effective when two or more are used together. However, without chronic data, it is not known if these measures could reduce chronic risk to an acceptable level.

#### **b. Turf and Ornamental Uses**

Bensulide is used to prevent emergence of grassy weeds on turf and around ornamentals. It is applied by ground in EC or granular form at a maximum application rate 12.5 lb ai/A. Applications at this rate can be twice a year, in the spring and fall. The largest turf use is application on the greens of golf courses. Bensulide is also applied to lawns by homeowners and lawn care professionals, as well as sod farms. The very small amount of bensulide applied around ornamentals in small-scale spot uses. The environmental risk associated with ornamental use is considered insignificant. The risk characterization therefore will focus on turf uses.

#### Risk to Terrestrial Ecosystems



Bensulide has low acute toxicity to birds (bobwhite  $LD_{50}$ =1390 mg/kg), but is more toxic to mammals (rat  $LD_{50}$ = 360 males, 270 females). The combination of high toxicity and high use rates on turf creates high acute risk for mammals. Risk quotients are as high 9.1 for EC products and 17 for granular products. Use on lawns poses a great risk to mammals. Mammals such as rabbits and voles that feed on grass and other herbaceous plants in lawns may be killed. Use on golf course greens probably poses less of a risk since herbaceous mammals would probably be less attracted to the very short grass of highly manicured greens compared to the thicker grass of other parts of the golf course.

To be effective, bensulide must be incorporated into the soil through irrigation soon after application. This practice would reduce the acute risk to mammals since it would wash granules and residues off of the vegetation and into the soil. The reduction of risk would depend on how soon and how well the area is irrigated after application. Use of granular, rather than an EC, formulations would also reduce risk to mammals. Granules will deliver most of the pesticide to the soil surface and result in minimal exposure to mammals feeding on vegetation. Unlike birds, mammals do not intentionally ingest grit, and thus would not be attracted to the pesticide granules. Use of granular formulation with immediate irrigation probably would reduce acute risk to terrestrial organisms to an acceptable level. However, it should be noted that use of granular formulation might increase risk to aquatic organisms.

Risk quotients indicate high chronic risk for birds and mammals from use of bensulide on turf. Avian reproduction data show that reproduction can be impaired at a dietary concentration of 250 ppm. Birds that feed on treated grass are predicted to receive dietary concentrations up to 12 times greater than this amount. It should be noted that the chronic avian chronic risk quotient are based on the LOEL rather than the NOEL. They are thus less protective than typical chronic risk quotients and indicate a greater certainty that adverse effects will occur. Chronic risk to mammals is also high, with risk quotients as high as 20. Furthermore, due to the bioconcentration, tissue concentrations of bensulide in fish are expected to be great enough in some cases to cause chronic effects to piscivorous birds and mammals from indirect exposure.

The high persistence of bensulide in the environment exacerbates this chronic risk because animals would be exposed to high concentrations for extended periods of time. Although the required irrigation may wash bensulide off vegetation, residues will persist in the thatch and upper layer of soil. A study conducted on a golf course in Ohio demonstrated that bensulide residues are persistent in upper soil layers (Niemczyk and Krause, 1994). Furthermore, numerous field dissipation studies conducted on established turf showed that bensulide residues gradually wash out of the thatch, contaminating the soil beneath it. Animals feeding in the thatch and upper soil layers therefore are predicted to receive long-term exposures. Additionally, the persistence in the upper soil compartment may result in considerable amounts of bensulide accumulating in the tissue of plants and/or invertebrates. It thereby may enter the food web, ultimately affecting higher organisms.

Exposure to bensulide may be especially high for migratory waterfowl that graze on treated turf that has not been adequately irrigated. Three species of North American migratory waterfowl frequently graze on short grass: the Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*), the American wigeon (*Anas americana*), and the brant (*Branta bernicla*) (Bellrose, 1976). According to the registrant, about two-thirds of the turf use of bensulide is in the “mid-

latitudes”, described as the area lying between U.S. Route 70 and U.S. Route 80. This area lies south of the major breeding areas of migratory Canada geese and American wigeon in Montana, Wyoming, and the Dakotas (Bellrose, 1976). However, these birds may be exposed to bensulide when they cross this mid-latitude region during their spring migration. It is also likely that a relatively small amount of bensulide is used on lawns within the breeding areas, which would cause additional exposure. Use of bensulide on turf probably poses even greater risk to nonmigratory populations of waterfowl, which breed throughout the high-use area, although these populations are considered overabundant and a nuisance in most areas.

Chronic effects of bensulide pose a risk to terrestrial species other than migratory birds. Small mammals and reptiles that feed on grass and other herbaceous vegetation in lawns would be at risk. Examples of such species are the cottontail rabbit, the meadow vole, and the box turtle. Other birds and mammals that feed on seeds and invertebrates in thatch and upper soil layer would also be exposed and may be at risk of chronic effects. This risk is uncertain because the amount of residues on seeds and invertebrates in the soil and thatch is unknown.

Chronic risk is uncertain for use on golf course greens. Greens make up a small proportion of the landscape of a golf course. It is not certain if wildlife would spend enough time feeding on golf greens to receive a significant exposure to bensulide. It appears likely that wildlife would be less attracted to the greens than to the fairway and “rough” where vegetation would be thicker.

Bensulide is highly toxic to bees. Use on turf would expose bees where flowering weeds such as clover and dandelion are present. Flowering weeds would be directly sprayed with application of EC products, which may pose a significant hazard to foraging bees. Flowering weeds are likely to be prevalent on some home lawns, but not on most golf course greens. Use of granular products is not expected to result in significant exposure to bees.

### Risk to Aquatic Ecosystems

Although bensulide does not have high acute toxicity to freshwater fish, its high use rate and persistence create high acute risk to freshwater fish for some uses. Risk quotients predict high risks for a single application of granular bensulide at 12.5 lb ai/A, as well as twice-per-year granular applications at 7.5 lb ai/A or greater. The risk quotient for twice-per-year applications of the EC formulation at 12.5 lb ai/A is slightly less than the high risk LOC of 0.5. The apparent greater sensitivity to bensulide of marine and estuarine fish put them at greater risk. Risk quotients indicate that all uses of bensulide, including the EC formulation, pose a high acute risk to marine and estuarine fish.

Because adequate toxicity data are not available for freshwater invertebrates, data from a supplemental study was used in this assessments. This creates uncertainty in the conclusion of high risk to freshwater invertebrates from turf uses. Risk quotients for freshwater invertebrates ranged from 0.29 for a single spray application at 12.5 lb ai/A to 1.7 for twice-per-year granular applications at 12.5 lb ai/A. Although not assessed, there is also a potential for runoff of bensulide to harm aquatic plants.

As turf use will result in little or no spray drift, exposure to surface water would be limited to movement of the pesticide in runoff and subsurface flow. Subsurface flow should be minimal because bensulide is not mobile in soils. Also, little erosion of soil is expected on turf sites. Thus, movement will be primarily as dissolved material in surface runoff. There is a high potential for this type of movement because bensulide persists in the upper soil layer; it neither leaches nor degrades at an appreciable rate. High soil residues are therefore likely to persist until the next runoff event.

The largest turf use of bensulide is on golf course greens. This use is expected to result in relatively low exposure to surface water for several reasons. First, golf course greens make up a relatively small portion of the total golf course landscape. The PRZM/EXAMS model used to estimate exposure assumes a large contiguous area will be treated, whereas greens represent relatively small and widely dispersed treatment areas. Therefore, aquatic residues are expected to be much less than predicted by this model. Furthermore, the untreated areas that surround the greens will serve as a buffer zone, reducing the amount of bensulide that will reach surface water. Finally, greens are generally flat and would not generate much runoff. Use on greens is therefore not expected to result in significant exposure to surface water. Conversely, use on golf course fairways and other turf areas are expected to result in high exposure and high risk to aquatic organisms. A field study confirmed that high concentrations of bensulide may be transported in runoff from golf course fairways (Odanaka et al., 1994).

There is a high potential for use on turf to result in chronic exposure to aquatic invertebrates. Because bensulide is persistent in the upper layer of the soil, it is available to gradually wash off in runoff for many weeks or months after application. Numerous field dissipation studies conducted on established turf found that bensulide residues also gradually wash out of the thatch into the soil, thereby increasing the persistence of residues in the soil. Once it enters surface water, it is also persistent, degrading very slowly by hydrolysis and aquatic photolysis. These factors increase the potential for chronic exposure to fish and invertebrates.

An additional factor that increases the potential of chronic effects of bensulide is repeated applications. Bensulide is frequently applied to turf in both the spring and the autumn. Since predicted half lives of bensulide are greater than the 120 application interval, more than half of the bensulide residues from the first application will be present in the soil at the second application. Residues can also carryover from year to year. In a field study conducted on a golf course treated with granular bensulide, residues of bensulide were observed to persist in the thatch layer from one spring application to the next (Niemczyk and Krause, 1994). Therefore, not only will treated areas continuously contaminate aquatic habitats, but the amount of contamination may increase over time as bensulide accumulates in soil and thatch from repeated applications.

It is imperative that chronic toxicity data for aquatic species be submitted to the Agency to allow this risk to be assessed. In the interim, until these data are submitted and reviewed, the Agency must assume high chronic risk to all aquatic organisms.

### **c. Surface Water**

Modeling results suggest bensulide will persist in surface waters following transport by surface runoff or spray drift. The modeling indicates dissipation does not occur rapidly and may occur principally by binding to suspended and bottom sediments. The limited dissipation results primarily from the slow degradation observed in the aerobic soil metabolism study (half-life of 1 year) and the high sorption coefficient (mean  $K_{oc} = 2,943$  ml/g). Considerable uncertainty exists in this assessment because only one laboratory study was evaluated to estimate the degradation rate constant.

The Tier 2 modeling assumes a single 10-hectare field generates runoff which is collected in a 1-hectare pond with no outlet. Pesticide application is assumed to be made on the entire field during a single day. The "closed system" (pond with no outlet) is a limitation for estimating surface water concentrations for drinking water sources. Other surface water bodies used as drinking water sources may exhibit considerable flow-through (rivers, streams) or turnover (reservoirs, lakes). Bensulide concentrations in such waters would be considerably less than the predicted values.

#### **d. Ground Water**

Based on environmental fate data, bensulide is very persistent but not mobile in the soil. The environmental fate characteristics of bensulide and ground water modeling support the conclusion that bensulide is not expected to leach to ground water. Monitoring data for bensulide is very limited.

No detections of bensulide in ground water have been reported; however, the monitoring data is considered very limited because the majority of the wells sampled were not located in bensulide use areas. Wells in Alabama and California had a high limit of detection and a small number of samples and were not considered useful. The majority of the wells sampled in Texas were not in the bensulide use area; however, eight wells in Hidalgo County were important since they are within a bensulide use area, are likely to be near crops treated with bensulide, and are in an area that appears to be highly vulnerable to ground water contamination. Although no bensulide residues were detected in this area, only a general screening method was used to analyze samples and the detection limit is not known.

PATRIOT modeling for bensulide was conducted on representative soils in the Yuma and Imperial Valley's of Arizona and California, in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, and in Ohio for turf. Each of these scenarios used the maximum labeled application rates, the maximum number of applications allowed per year, irrigation, and very shallow ground water (3-6 ft) to simulate "worst-case" conditions. PATRIOT modeling predicted that bensulide would not leach to very shallow ground water.

Results from the SCI-GROW screening model predicted that the maximum chronic concentration of bensulide in shallow ground water is not expected to exceed  $0.9 \mu\text{g/L}$  for the majority of the use sites. This is considered to be a "worst case" or "upper bound" for residues of bensulide in ground water. Bensulide was modeled using a 25 lb ai/acre/season application to turf. Typical use rates of bensulide for turf and vegetables are significantly less than this amount therefore any bensulide residues reaching ground water should be much less than predicted. Additional modeling of bensulide use on vegetables for the Yuma and Imperial Valleys (maximum of 12 lb/ai/season) resulted in a predicted concentration of 0.46

ppb. Bensulide use on vegetables for other use areas (max. 6 lb ai/season) resulted in a predicted concentration of 0.2 ppb.

The SCI-GROW model is based on small-scale ground water monitoring studies conducted on highly vulnerable sandy soils with shallow ground water (10-30 ft in depth). These types of soils would be classified as belonging to Hydrologic Group A soils. Highly vulnerable Hydrologic Group A soils generally do not occur in the bensulide use area. Soils in the bensulide use area are predominately Hydrologic Group B soils with limited areas of Group C and D soils. Soils belonging to these groups have less potential for leaching and a greater potential for surface water runoff.

Although the PATRIOT model adjusted for general irrigation, it did not account for use of micro-jet/sprinkler irrigation which is now commonly used in the desert areas of the Imperial and Yuma Valleys. These systems use significantly less water than traditional irrigation methods. When bensulide is used with microjet irrigation it is applied as chemigation and is applied with the irrigation water that is delivered to the plants. Lower application rates are often used with chemigation, and rates as low as 4 lb/ai may be used. The use of less irrigation water and lower application rates should decrease the potential for leaching of bensulide in these areas.

Both the PATRIOT and SCI-GROW screening models predicted little or no contamination of ground water, even though “worst-case” assumptions were used caused overestimation of the leaching potential of bensulide. Therefore, bensulide is not expected to leach to ground water.

## **6. Labeling Requirements**

### **a. Manufacturing-Use Products**

Labels for manufacturing-use products currently contain the following Environmental Hazard statement:

“This product is toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates. Do not discharge effluent containing this product into lakes, streams, ponds, estuaries, oceans or other waters unless in accordance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and the permitting authority has been notified in writing prior to discharge. Do not discharge effluent containing this product to sewer systems without previously notifying the local sewage treatment plant authority. For guidance contact your state Water Board or Regional Office of the EPA.”

This label statement is adequate.

### **b. End-use Products**

Labels for end-use product currently contain the following Environmental Hazard statement:

"This product is toxic to fish and aquatic invertebrates. Do not apply directly to water, or to areas where surface water is present or to intertidal areas below the mean high water mark. Do not contaminate water when disposing of equipment washwater or rinsate"

Labels for EC products currently contain the following statement:

"Do not apply when weather conditions favor drift from the treated area."

This statement is beneficial in reducing risks to nontarget plants and animals. It should be retained.

Because bensulide is highly toxic to honey bees, the following statement is recommended for the label of EC products containing bensulide:

"This product is highly toxic to bees exposed to direct treatment or residues on blooming crops or weeds. Do not apply this product or allow it to drift to blooming crops or weeds if bees are visiting the treatment area."

## REFERENCES

- Atkins, E.L., Jr., L.D. Anderson, and E.A. Greywood. 1969. Effects of pesticides on apiculture: Project No. 1499, Research report CF-7501.
- Aurelius, L.A. 1989. Testing for pesticides in Texas well water. Texas Department of Agriculture. Austin, TX.
- Barrett, M. to Merenda, J. 30 June 1997. Proposal for Method to Determine Screening Concentration Estimates for Drinking Water Derived from Ground Water Sources. USEPA, Office of Pesticide Programs, Washington, D.C.
- Bellrose, F.C. 1976. Ducks, Geese, and Swans of North America. Stackpole Books, Harrisburg, PA. 543 pp.
- Fletcher, J.S., J.E. Nellessen, and T.G. Pfleeger. 1994. Literature review and evaluation of the EPA food-chain (Kenaga) nomogram, an instrument for estimating pesticide residues on plants. Environ. Toxicol. Chem. Vol.13: pp 1383-1391.
- Hoerger, F. and E.E. Kenaga. 1972. Pesticide residues on plants: correlation of representative data as a basis for estimation of their magnitude in the environment. Environmental Quality and Safety. Vol. 1: pp. 9-28.
- Gowan, 1997a. Letter M. Rice, USEPA, 08 May 1997, discussing pending meeting and providing bensulide usage data. Washington, D.C.
- Gowan, 1997b. Notes from presentation by Gowan Company at meeting with USEPA, Office of Pesticide Programs, 13 May, 1997. Washington, D.C.

- Niemczyk, H.D. and A.A. Krause. 1994. Behaviour and mobility of preemergent herbicides in turfgrass: a field study. *J. Environ. Sci. Health B29*: 507-539.
- Meister, 1995. *Farm Chemicals Handbook '95*. Meister Publishing co., Willoughby, OH.
- McCorkle, F.M., J.E. Chambers, and J.D. Yarbrough. 1977. Acute toxicities of selected herbicides to fingerling channel catfish, *Ictalurus punctatus*. *Bull. Environ. Contam. Toxicol.* 18: 267-270.
- Odanaka, Y., T. Taniguchi, Y. Shimamura, K. Iijima, Y. Koma, T. Takechi, and O. Matano. 1994. Runoff and leaching of pesticides in golf course. *J. Pesticide Sci.* 19:1-10.)
- Shellenberger, T.E., G.W. Newell, R.M. Bridgman, and J. Barbaccia. 1965. A subacute toxicity study of *N*-(2-mercaptoethyl) benzenesulfonamide *S*-(*O,O*-diisopropyl phosphorodithioate) and phthalimidomethyl-*O,O*-dimethyl phosphorodithioate with Japanese quail. *Toxicol. Appl. Pharmacol.* 7: 550-558.
- U.S.E.P.A., 1992. *EPA Pesticides in Ground Water Database, A Compilation of Monitoring Studies: 1971-1991 National Summary*. Office of Pesticide Programs, Washington, D.C.

## APPENDIX A

### Detailed Descriptions of Major Geographical Areas Where Bensulide Is Used

#### "Desert Southwest" (Arizona and California)

##### Lettuce Production

The "Desert S.W" is part of the major land resource region known as the Western Range and Irrigated Region. The Western Range and Irrigated Region is a semi-desert to desert region of plateaus, plains, basins, and mountains. Most of the plains and basins receive less than 10 inches per year of precipitation. Much of the areas is used for range however irrigated agriculture is practiced where the is water available (Austin, 1972).

The principle use of bensulide in these areas is on lettuce in the Yuma and Imperial Valleys which are part of the Imperial Valley major land resources area (Austin, 1972, Gowan, 1997b).

The Imperial and Yuma Valley area has intensive irrigated agriculture and is noted for its vegetable, fruit, cotton and grain production. The Valley is a nearly level plain ranging in elevation from 125 feet below sea level to 600 feet above. Annual precipitation ranges from 2 to 4 inches and water is scarce. Irrigation for crops is almost entirely dependent upon water from the Colorado and Gila Rivers. Some wells provide local irrigation (Austin, 1972).

The dominant soils are Fluvents, Orthents and Psammments. They are described as very deep with a "hyperthermic temperature regime and aridic moisture regime" (Austin, 1981). The Imperial Valley is predominately Hydrologic Group D soils with a small area of Hydrologic Group B soils in the northern part of the Valley. The Yuma Valley is predominately Hydrologic Group A soils with limited areas of Group B soils (Kellogg, et al., 1992).

Irrigation on lettuce in the Yuma and Imperial Valleys uses furrow irrigation or "micro-jet" applicators. Bensulide is applied using chemigation, which means it is applied with the irrigation water that is delivered to the plants (Gowan, 1997b).

#### "Central Valley" (California)

##### Cucurbits (Melon) Production

The Central Valley of California is part of the major land resource region known as the California Subtropical Fruit, Truck, and Specialty Crop Region. This region consists of low mountains and broad valleys. It has a long growing season and low precipitation. Vegetables, fruits, and nuts are major crops in this region. Rice sugar beets, cotton and grain crops are also important (Austin, 1972).

In the central portion of the California Subtropical Fruit, Truck, and Specialty Crop Region is the major land resource area of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. This represents what is commonly known as the "Central Valley." The majority of the Valley is in ranches



and farms. About one-half of the land is cropland of which three-fourths is irrigated. The area has broad level valleys bordered by sloping alluvial plains and terraces. Elevations range from sea level to 500 feet. Average rainfall ranges from 5 to 25 inches. Low rainfall and small streamflow result in a scarcity of water. Irrigation water is supplied from the mountains and from wells. The southern areas are suffering from declining water tables resulting from irrigation (Austin, 1972).

The dominant soils are Xeralfs, Xerolls, Xererts, Aquents, Aquolls, Ochrepts, Orthents, Fluvents, Psamments, and Argids. They have a thermic temperature regime (Austin, 1981). Hydrologic Group B soils predominate in the southern end of the Central Valley, while Hydrologic Group D soils in the northern areas (Kellogg, et al., 1992).

Bensulide is used principally on melon production in the Central Valley. Water is provided by drip irrigation (Gowan, 1997b).

### "Mid-latitudes"

#### "Turf" Use

The principle use of bensulide on "turf" is on golf course greens. Bensulide is not generally used on golf fairways due to its cost. It is estimated that approximately one-half of the golf courses in the U.S. are treated with bensulide, most use the 4 lb ai/gal. EC. About two-thirds of the bensulide use on turf occurs in the "mid-latitudes," an area described as lying between U.S. Route 70 and U.S. Route 80 (Gowan, 1997a, Gowan, 1997b). This area forms an east-west trending belt through in the central part of the U.S and may include parts of New Jersey, Pennsylvanian, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and possibly Wyoming and Utah. A major portion of this potential use area occurs in the Central Feed Grain and Livestock Region. This region is characterized by fertile soils, and favorable climate with 25 to 35 inches of rainfall annually. Much of the area has been glaciated and glacial drift, loess, and till plains are common (Austin, 1972).

Hydrologic group B and Group C soils predominate in this "belt" across the midwest. Hydrologic Group B soils occur in central Indiana, northern Illinois, Iowa, eastern Nebraska, western Kansas, and eastern Colorado. Hydrologic Group C soils occur in northern New Jersey, Pennsylvania, central Ohio, southern Indiana, southern Illinois, southern Iowa, eastern Kansas, and northern Missouri. Hydrologic Group A and Group D soils are not common in most of these areas (Kellogg, et al., 1992).

### Rio Grande Valley (Texas)

#### Melon and Onion Production

The Rio Grande Valley is within the major land resource region known as the Southwestern Plateaus and Plains Range and Cotton Region. Rangeland is the dominant land use in this region with some agricultural areas in the southeastern areas along the Rio Grande Valley. This region receives moderate rainfall however the high temperatures reduce the effectiveness of the precipitation (Austin, 1972).

The major land resource area known as the Rio Grande Valley, is a nearly level plain ranging in elevation from sea level to 1,000 feet in the northwest. Citrus, fruit, melons, vegetables, cotton, and corn are grown in the Valley, especially along the Rio Grande and Nueces rivers which provide water for irrigation. Average annual rainfall ranges from 20 to 35 inches. Ground water is "abundant" with some use for irrigation (Austin, 1972).

Most of the soils are Ustalfs. They are deep, moderately fine textured and fine textured soils, that formed in alluvial sediments. They have a hyperthermic temperature regime, and an ustic moisture regime, and mixed mineralogy. Ustolls having mixed mineralogy are reported as extensive (Austin, 1981). The irrigated areas along the Rio Grande are predominately Hydrologic Group B soils with areas of Hydrologic Group A, and Group C soils in the interior of the region (Kellogg, et al, 1992).

### South Central Texas

Gowan also reports one county with bensulide use on vegetables. A portion of the county falls in the major land resource area described above, while the other portion falls in the southwest part of the major land resource area known as the Southwestern prairies Cotton and Forage Region. This area is mostly farms with cotton, and grain sorghum as the major crops. Elevation ranges from 40 to 80 feet. Annual precipitation ranges from 30 to 49 inches. Rainfall is adequate in most years. Ground water is scarce and reservoirs and ponds are commonly used as water sources. Most of the soils are Usterts, Ustolls, Aqualfs and Ustalfs. They are well drained to somewhat poorly drained, and medium to fine textured. These soils have a thermic temperature regime, an ustic or aquic moisture regime and montmorillonitic, mixed, or carbonate mineralogy (Austin, 1981).

### Colorado

#### Onion Production

Onion production is reported to also occur in northeastern Colorado (Gowan, 1997b). This is part of the major land resource region known as the Western Great Plains Range and Irrigated Region. In this section of the Great Plains, the soils are often unfavorable for agriculture and moisture is often limited. A large part of the area is rangeland with some dryfarming.

Two counties along the South Platte River reported use of bensulide. These counties are in the major land resource area known as the Central High Plains. Most of the land is in ranches and farms. Corn, vegetables, melons, sugar beets and potatoes are grown on irrigated land. The elevation ranges from 3,500 to 6,000 feet. The precipitation ranges from 13 to 17 inches annually and varies widely from year to year. Much of the irrigation water is derived from the South Platte River and its tributaries. Ground water is described as "adequate" from the sands and gravels. Areas where shale is near the surface, ground water is scarce (Austin, 1972). Most of the soils are Ustolls and Argids. They are deep and medium textured and fine textured and have mixed or montmorillonitic mineralogy. They have an aridic moisture regime that is borderline to ustic and a mesic temperature regime (Austin, 1981). The soils in this area are predominately Hydrologic Group B and Group C soils (Kellogg, et al., 1992).

### Idaho

Bensulide is reportedly used on vegetables in one county along the Snake River in Idaho. This is part of the major land resource region known as the Northwestern Wheat and Range Region. This area along the Snake River is in farms and ranches. Areas bordering the river are irrigated. Potatoes, grain, sugar beets beans and hay are reportedly grown in this area. Elevations range from 2,000 to 5,500 feet. Alluvial fans, bottom lands and terraces are described as gently to moderately sloping. Annual average precipitation ranges from 7 to 13 inches. Large amounts of water are available for irrigation from the Snake River and its tributaries. Ground water is abundant in the deeper alluvial deposits and has been extensively used for irrigation (Austin, 1972). The dominant soils are Orthids, Argids, and Orthents. They have a meic or frigid temperature regime (Austin, 1981). The soils are predominately Hydrologic Group B soils (Kellogg, et al., 1992).

### Florida

Three counties in Florida have reported use of bensulide on vegetables. The principle use is in southern Florida in Dade County. This area is part of the major land resource region known as the Florida Subtropical Fruit, Truck Crop, and Range Region. Dade County specifically is in the major land resource area known as the Florida Everglades and Associated Areas. The area is composed largely of open marsh, and swamps with broad poorly defined streams. Cypress forests and mangroves are widespread along the coast. The elevation ranges from sea level to 25 feet, canals and ditches drain areas for crops and pasture. Winter vegetables and citrus are grown in the dryer areas (eastern Dade County). The area receives 50 to 64 inches of precipitation annually. There is an abundance of water from rainfall, surface water and ground water (Austin, 1972).

The soils for this area are described as Sapristis and Fibristis. They are very poorly drained, organic soils that have a hyperthermic temperature regime and an aquic moisture regime. Many soils in Dade County are very shallow with limestone and marl near the surface (Austin 1981). This soils in this area has not been classified into Hydrologic Groups (Kellogg, et al., 1992)

### References:

Austin, 1972. Land Resources Regions and Major Land Resource Areas of the United States. USDA Handbook 296. Washington, D.C.

Austin, 1981. Land Resources Regions and Major Land Resource Areas of the United States. USDA Handbook 296, revised 1981. Washington, D.C.

Kellogg, R.L., M.S. Maizel and D.W. Goss, 1992. Agricultural chemical Use and Ground Water Quality: Where Are the Potential Problem Areas? USDA, SCS, ERS, Washington, D.C.

Gowan, 1997a. Letter M. Rice, USEPA, 08 May 1997, discussing pending meeting and providing bensulide usage data. Washington, D.C.

Gowan, 1997b. Notes from presentation by Gowan Company at meeting with USEPA, Office of Pesticide Programs, 13 May, 1997. Washington, D.C.

USDA, 1967. Principal Kinds of Soils, Orders, Suborders and Great Groups, National Cooperative Soil Survey Classification of 1967. USDA, SCS, USGS # 38077-BE-NA-07M-00.

USEPA, 1997a. EPA Quantitative Usage Analysis, Bensulide, Case #2035, A.I. #9801-Draft-30 May, 1997. Washington, D.C.

USEPA, 1997b. "Summary of Use Data for Bensulide, Updated 5/14/97." [Office of Pesticide Programs, Biological and Economic Analysis Division, Washington, D.C.].

## APPENDIX B

## Summaries of Unacceptable Field Dissipation Studies for Bensulide

40534901.

This study is unacceptable and cannot be upgraded because substantial residues of bensulide were recovered at all sampling depths immediately following the first application ( $\geq 0.79$  ppm; limit of quantitation 0.05 ppm; no residues had been found in the samples taken from the plots prior to treatment) and concentrations were increased ten-fold in the lower sampling depths immediately following the second application (from 0.13-0.14 ppm to 1.18-1.84 ppm). In addition, soil samples were only taken to a depth of 12 inches, which did not permit a determination of the depth of leaching for either parent or degradate. An additional problem with the study is that there was no confirmation of application rate at either of the two specified application dates; at day 0 after the first application approximately 37% of the application rate was accounted for, and after the second application approximately 35% of the applied material was confirmed from the soil. No bare-ground plots were used for confirmation of application (the study plot was established turf), and no mention was made of how the turf and thatch in the samples were separated from the soil or of any attempt to extract residues from the turf or thatch.

Two applications of BETASAN 4-E were made at a rate of 12.5 lb ai/A per application to the surface of established turf on silt loam soil located near Leland, Mississippi. The first application was made on 18 April 1986; the second application was made 112 days later on 8 August 1986. Soil samples were collected to a depth of 12 inches up to 364 days following the second application. Residue analysis consisted of analysis of soil for bensulide and bensulide oxon; grass and thatch were not analyzed.

Bensulide was found at all sampling depths immediately posttreatment. The reported half-life for bensulide in the top 3 inches of soil was 91 days for the first application ( $r^2=0.72$ ) and 96 days for the second application ( $r^2=0.72$ ). The bensulide oxygen analog residue data indicate that bensulide oxon was found predominately in the top 3 inches of soil at appreciable amounts up until 104 days following the second application and was detected as far down as the 6-12 inch soil stratum during that same period.

40534902

This study is unacceptable and cannot be upgraded because substantial residues of bensulide were recovered at all sampling depths immediately following application ( $\geq 0.65$  ppm; limit of quantitation 0.05 ppm; no residues had been found in the samples taken from the plots prior to treatment). In addition, soil samples were only taken to a depth of 12 inches, which did not permit a determination of the depth of leaching for bensulide. An additional problem with the study is that there was no confirmation of application rate. At day 0, approximately 55% of the application rate was accounted for. No bare-ground plots were used for confirmation of application (the study plot was established turf), and no mention was made of how the turf and thatch in the samples were separated from the soil or of any attempt to extract residues from the turf or thatch.

One application of BETASAN 4-E was made at a rate of 12.5 lb ai/A on May 9, 1986 to established turf on silt loam soil located near Orange Cove, California. Samples of turf and soil were collected up to 91 days posttreatment; soil samples were taken to a depth of 12 inches. Residue analysis consisted of analysis of soil for bensulide and bensulide oxon; grass and thatch were not analyzed.

Bensulide was found at all sampling depths immediately posttreatment. The reported half-life (time at which half of the calculated initial concentration of the analyte remained) for bensulide in the top 3 inches of soil was 34 days ( $r^2=0.89$ ). Bensulide residues persisted in the top 3 inches of soil throughout the study, although levels had dissipated to approximately 12% of the amount found immediately after application. After 7 days no detectable residues of bensulide were found below 6 inches and levels were below the detection limit (0.05 ppm) in the 3-6 inch stratum after 31 days. Bensulide oxon was found at detectable levels only in the top 3 inches of soil throughout the 91-day sampling period.

40534903

This study is unacceptable and cannot be upgraded because substantial residues of bensulide were recovered at all sampling depths immediately following both applications ( $\geq 0.13$  ppm and  $\geq 0.35$  ppm after the first and second applications, respectively; limit of quantitation 0.05 ppm; no residues had been found in the samples taken from the plots prior to treatment). In addition, soil samples were only taken to a depth of 12 inches, which did not permit a determination of the depth of leaching for bensulide. An additional problem was that dissipation half-lives could not be determined. Although the study author reported half-lives for bensulide of 210 days for the first application and 101 days for the second application made 133 days later on the same treatment plots, no definite pattern of decline was evident following either application due to variability in the bensulide residues in the 0-3 inch soil stratum. Also, there was no confirmation of application rate. Following the first application, approximately 28% of the application rate was accounted for; after the second application approximately 77% of the applied material was confirmed from the soil. No bare-ground plots were used for confirmation of application (the study plot was established turf), and no mention was made of how the turf and thatch in the samples were separated from the soil or of any attempt to extract residues from the turf or thatch.

Two applications of BETASAN 12.5-G were surface applied at a rate of 12.5 lb/A bensulide to established turf on silt loam soil located near Leland, Mississippi. The first application was made on 21 October 1986, and a second application was made 133 days later on 3 March 1987. Soil samples were collected up to 167 days following the second application to a depth of 12 inches. Residue analysis consisted of analysis of soil for bensulide and bensulide oxon; grass and thatch were not analyzed.

Bensulide residues were recovered from soil samples taken from the 3-6 and 6-12 inch soil strata on the day of application and in all samples taken through 127 days posttreatment. A definite pattern of decline was not evident due to variability in the bensulide residues in the 0-3 inch soil stratum ( $r^2=0.146$  following the first application and  $r^2=0.425$  following the second). Detectable bensulide oxon residues were confined to the top 3 inches of soil during the time following the first application. However, after the second application, detectable

residues of bensulide oxon were found at all sampling depths on day 14 posttreatment; in the 3- to 6-inch soil stratum, a maximum of 0.12 ppm was found at 79 days posttreatment.

40534904.

This study is unacceptable and cannot be upgraded because substantial residues of bensulide were recovered at all sampling depths immediately following application ( $\geq 0.13$  ppm; limit of quantitation 0.05 ppm; no residues had been found in the samples taken from the plots prior to treatment). In addition, soil samples were only taken to a depth of 12 inches, which did not permit a determination of the depth of leaching for bensulide. An additional problem was that there was no confirmation of application rate. Immediately following application, the maximum residues recovered were approximately 51% of the application rate. No bare-ground plots were used for confirmation of application (the study plot was established turf), and no mention was made of how the turf and thatch in the samples were separated from the soil or of any attempt to extract residues from the turf or thatch.

BETASAN 12.5-G Granular Selective Herbicide (active ingredient bensulide) was applied postemergence surface (POES) with a shaker can to established turf on a silt loam soil near Orange Cove, California. One application of BETASAN 12.5-G (12.5 lb/A bensulide) was made on 9 May 1986. Soil samples were collected to a depth of 12 inches up to 92 days posttreatment. Residue analysis consisted of analysis of soil for bensulide and bensulide oxon; grass and thatch were not analyzed.

The reported half-life (time at which half of the calculated initial concentration of the analyte remained) for bensulide in the top 3 inches of soil was 30 days ( $r^2=0.768$ ). Bensulide residues persisted in the top 3 inches of soil throughout the study, although levels had dissipated to approximately 10% of the amount found immediately after application. Detectable residues of bensulide were found at the greatest sampling depth (12 inches) at time of application and at 7 days posttreatment. Bensulide oxon was found at detectable levels only in the top 3 inches of soil throughout the 91-day sampling period, reaching a maximum of 0.79 ppm at 31 days posttreatment.

40534905.

This study is unacceptable and cannot be upgraded because substantial residues of bensulide were recovered at all sampling depths immediately following application ( $\geq 0.30$  ppm; limit of quantitation 0.05 ppm; no residues had been found in the samples taken from the plots prior to treatment). In addition, soil samples were only taken to a depth of 12 inches, and substantial residues of bensulide were recovered at all sampling depths at time of application and through 28 days following application, which did not permit a determination of the depth of leaching for bensulide. An additional problem was that there was no confirmation of application rate. Immediately following application, approximately 31% of the application rate was accounted for, and at no following interval was more than 53% recovered. In addition, it is uncertain what the condition of the field plot was at the time of application (conflicting descriptions were provided as to whether the treated area was bare ground or established sod).

PREFAR 4-E Selective Herbicide (active ingredient bensulide) was applied pre-plant incorporated (PPI) with a tractor-mounted boom sprayer at an application rate of 6.0 lbs of bensulide per acre to a silt loam soil at a test site near Orange Cove, California on 9 May 1986. Cotton was seeded into the plots immediately after application (no mention was made how these plots were prepared for seeding after application). Soil samples were collected to a depth of 12 inches up to 154 days posttreatment. Residue analysis consisted of analysis of soil for bensulide and bensulide oxon.

The reported half-life (time at which half of the calculated initial concentration of the analyte remained) for bensulide was 15 days ( $r^2 = 0.94$ ). Detectable residues of bensulide were found at the greatest sampling depth (12 inches) up until 28 days posttreatment. Detectable bensulide oxon residues were confined to the top 3 inches of soil throughout this field dissipation study at a maximum of 0.29 ppm at 14 days posttreatment.

40534906.

This study is unacceptable and cannot be upgraded because substantial residues of bensulide were recovered in the 3- to 6-inch soil segments immediately following application (1.44 ppm) and were present at  $\geq 0.38$  ppm at all soil depths at 3 days posttreatment (limit of quantitation 0.05 ppm; no residues had been found in the samples taken from the plots prior to treatment). In addition, soil samples were only taken to a depth of 12 inches, and substantial residues of bensulide were recovered at all sampling depths up through 27 days following application, which did not permit a determination of the depth of leaching for bensulide. An additional problem was that there was no confirmation of application rate. Immediately following application, approximately 139% of the application rate was accounted for in the 0- to 3-inch soil depth, and decreased to 55% by 3 days posttreatment. In addition, it is uncertain what the condition of the field plot was at the time of application (conflicting descriptions were provided as to whether the treated area was bare ground or established sod).

PREFAR 4-E Selective Herbicide (active ingredient bensulide) was applied pre-plant incorporated (PPI) with a tractor mounted boom sprayer at an application rate of 6.0 lb/A of bensulide to a silt loam soil near Leland, Mississippi on 18 April 1986. Cotton was seeded on the plots 4 days after application (no mention was not made how these plots were prepared for seeding after bensulide application). Soil samples were collected up to 363 days post application to a depth of 12 inches. Residue analysis consisted of analysis of soil for bensulide and bensulide oxon.

Analysis of the soil samples showed that bensulide was recovered at all sampling depths by day 3 posttreatment. At day 0 there was 8.35 ppm bensulide recovered in the 0-3 inch soil stratum and 1.44 ppm in the 3-6 inch depth soil stratum. By day 3 posttreatment bensulide residues were reported at 3.37 ppm in the top 3 inches of soil, 0.38 ppm in the 3-6 inch soil stratum, and 0.39 ppm in the 6-12 inch soil stratum. Bensulide residues were detected in the 6-12 inch soil stratum until 27 days posttreatment, and in the 3-6 inch soil stratum until 87 days posttreatment.

The reported half-life (time at which half of the calculated initial concentration of the analyte remained) for bensulide was 30 days ( $r^2=0.816$ ). Detectable bensulide oxon residues were



confined to the top 3 inches of soil throughout this field dissipation study with a maximum concentration of 0.24 ppm at 27 days posttreatment.

41694201.

This study is unacceptable and cannot be upgraded because there was no confirmation of application rate at either of the two specified application dates. At day 0 after the first application only 1.33% of the application rate was accounted for in the soil, and after the second application only 3.06% of the applied material was confirmed. No bare-ground plots were used for confirmation of application (the study plot that had been planted to turf several weeks prior to the first application) and no mention was made of how the turf and thatch in the samples were separated from the soil or of any attempt to extract residues from the turf or thatch.

Two applications of BETASAN 4E were made on 1- to 2-inch high turf at a rate of 12.5 lb ai/A per application. The plots located in Tulare County near Porterville, CA. were planted with turf (hybrid Bermuda) on 29 June 1988. The first application was made on 21 July 1988 and the second application was made on 21 September 1988 (61 day treatment interval). Soil samples were collected up to 275 days postapplication to a maximum depth of 39.5 inches. Residue analysis consisted of analysis of soil for bensulide and bensulide oxon; grass and thatch were not analyzed.

After the second application, bensulide was reportedly detected down to the 27.5 inch soil segment (0.75 ppm at day 62) and bensulide oxon was detected as far as the 27.5 inch soil segment (0.08 ppm at day 62). It appears that bensulide residues were continually leaching into the soil from the thatch or turf. The application rate could not be confirmed nor was an apparent consistent decline of parent material observed. Reviewer-calculated half-lives were 185.8 days for the first application ( $r^2=0.007$ ) and 61.3 days for the second application ( $r^2=0.335$ ).

41694202.

This study as reported is unacceptable and cannot be upgraded because there was no confirmation of application rate at either of the two specified application dates. At day 0 after the first application approximately 37% of the application rate was accounted for; after the second application approximately 28% of the applied material was confirmed from the soil. No bare-ground plots were used for confirmation of application (the study plot had been sodded to turf several weeks prior to the first application) and no mention was made of how the turf and thatch in the samples were separated from the soil or of any attempt to extract residues from the turf or thatch.

Two applications of BETASAN 12.5-G were made on 1- to 2-inch high turf (tall fescue, Blue Fylking which had been sodded 40 days prior to use) located in Tulare County near Visalia, CA on Foster fine sandy loam soil at a rate of 12.5 lb ai/A per application. The first application was made on 24 May 1988 and 57 days later a second application was made on 21 July 1988. Soil samples were collected to a depth of 39.5 inches up to 278 days following the second application.. Residue analysis consisted of analysis of soil for bensulide and bensulide oxon; grass and thatch were not analyzed.

The application rate could not be confirmed nor was an apparent consistent decline of parent material observed. Reviewer-calculated half-lives were 77 days for the first application ( $r^2=0.064$ ) and 37 days for the second application ( $r^2=0.74$ ). Bensulide was not detected below the 3.5 to 7.0 inch soil segment at any sampling interval after either of the two applications in this study. Bensulide oxon was not reported below the 0-3.5 inch soil segment; maximum concentration was 0.1 ppm at 30 days posttreatment.

## APPENDIX C

## Ground Water Modeling Input for Bensulide

$K_{oc} = 2943$  (mean)

= 3006 (median)

Aerobic soil  $T_{1/2} = 363$  days

## PATRIOT modeling Input

## Vegetables

MLRA 031 (Yuma/Imperial Valley)

App. Rate: 12 lb/acre/year

Weather: Yuma Arizona 1974-1983

Depth G/W: 158 cm

Corr. for Evap and Irrigation

MLRA 083D (Rio Grande Valley)

App. Rate: 6 lb/acre/year

Weather: Brownsville 1954-1963

Depth G/W: 174 cm

Corr. for Evap and Irrigation

## Turf

Grass/Pasture/Hay Scenario for Ohio

App. Rate: 25 lb/acre/year

Depth G/W: 91 cm

Corr. for Evap. and Irrigation

## APPENDIX D

## Physical Chemical Properties and Structures

Bensulide chemistry values for background info. Updated as of May 30, 1997.

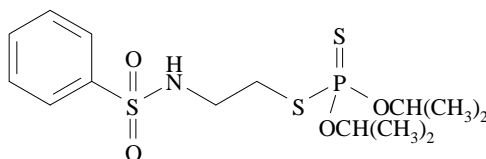
Parameter	Bensulide (009801)
63-2 - Color	White (Pure active); light amber (Technical) [41532001]
63-3 - Physical State	Solid (Pure active and Technical) [41532001]
63-4 - Odor	Odorless (Pure active); “oily, camphor-like, reminiscent of sulfur-containing compounds” (Technical) [41532001]
63-5 - Melting Point	36 °C (Pure active); 33-36 °C (Technical) [41532001]
63-6 - Boiling Point	N/A (material is a solid) [41532001]
63-8 - Solubility	Water: 5.6 mg/L @ 25 °; 1-Octanol: 78.4 g/100 mL; kerosene: 5.2 g/100 mL; miscible at room temperature in acetone, chlorobenzene, ethanol, xylene, and dichloromethane [41532001]
63-9 - Vapor Pressure	$1.1 \times 10^{-4}$ Pa; $8.2 \times 10^{-7}$ mm Hg/Torr (Pure active) [41532001]
63-10 - Dissociation constant (pKa)	N/A (material does not dissociate) [41532001]
63-11 - Octanol/water Partition Coefficient ( $K_{ow}$ )	average $1.65 \times 10^4$ at ambient temperature (Pure active) [157314]; Log $K_{ow}$ : 4.217
63-12 - pH	In 1% solutions in water: $8 \pm 1$ (Pure active); $5.0 \pm 0.1$ (Technical) [41532001]

CHEMICAL:

<u>Common Name:</u>	Bensulide	Bensulide oxon	Benzenesulfonamide
<u>CAS No.:</u>	741-58-2	20243-81-6	-
<u>PC Code No.:</u>	009801	-	-
<u>Chemical Name:</u>	Bensulide: [S-(O,O-diisopropyl phosphorodithioate) ester of N-(2-mercapto)benzenesulfonamide]; [S-benzenesulfonamidoethyl O,O-diisopropyl phosphorodithioate] Bensulide oxon: N-[(2-(diisopropoxyphosphinoylthio)-1-ethyl)-benzenesulfonamide]		

Trade Names: (from LUIS report dated February, 1996)

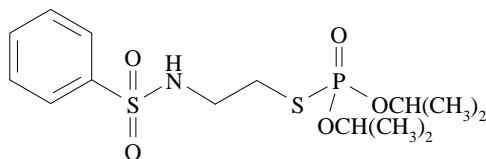
Prefar 4-C (emulsifiable concentrate); Betasan (granular)

Chemical Structures:

Bensulide

Molecular Formula:  $C_{14}H_{24}NO_4PS_3$

Molecular Weight: 397.52 g/mol

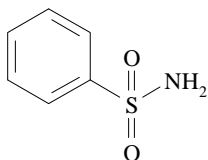


Bensulide oxon

Molecular Formula:  $C_{14}H_{24}NO_6PS_2$

Molecular Weight: 381 g/mol

Melting point: 64.5-65.5°C



Benzenesulfonamide

Molecular Formula:  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{SO}_2\text{NH}_2$

Molecular Weight: 157.14 g/mol

$K_a$ :  $10^{-10}$

References:

157314 - Lee, K-S. 1986. Odor, corrosion rate, and octanol water partition coefficient of bensulide. Unpublished study performed and submitted by Stauffer Chemical Company, Richmond CA.

41532001 - Lee, K-S. 1990. Bensulide - Physical properties. Unpublished study performed and submitted by ICI Americas Inc., Richmond, CA.